

Department of Children and Family Services
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

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Assembly Bill 12

- 2011 – Kinship Children's Social Workers completed AB12 conversion paperwork for more than 6,000 children/youth in relative care!!!
- 2012 – Kinship is completing AB12 Age Extension paperwork for more than 1,000 youth in relative care!!!

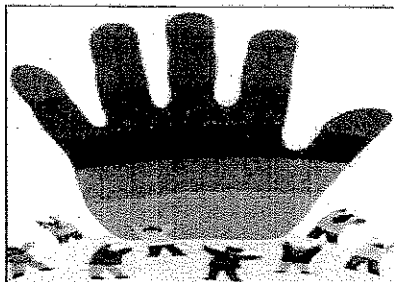
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Available Additional Services

- DMH Clinician for linkage to Mental Health Services
- DPSS Liaison for Cal-Works
- School on Wheels free tutoring
- Toy Loan Centers Grand Openings
- Summer 2012 Activities

Upcoming and Recent Events

- Kinship Conference - June 7, 2012
- Speedzone Family Night – May 25, 2012
- Clearing a Criminal Record - May 10 and May 17, 2012
- KEPS...The Next Generation – May 4, May 23, June 12, 2012
- UCLA Project Step Up – May 1, 2012
- SPA 5 & 6 Advisory Council – April 26, 2012 and every 4th Thursday
- Kinship Training Institute – April 19, 2012
- Educational Issues – April 12, 2012
- Open House featuring ENCORE – April 10, 2012
- Kinship Karaoke Appreciation – April 10, 2012
- Kinship Appreciation Event – April 3, 2012
- Kinship Orientation through Rio Hondo College – March 22, 2012
- The Independent Living Program – March 8, 2012
- Open House – February 14, 2012
- Trauma and Suicide Prevention – February 9, 2012
- Understanding ADHD – January 12, 2012



**DCFS
KINSHIP RESOURCE
CENTERS**

Providing a Helping Hand
to Relative caregivers

1-888-MYGRAND

1-888-694-7263

Check our website at

<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>



Welcome to Our Website

In collaboration with our departmental and community partners, Kinship Care Services' mission is to provide information, resources, services and support to relative caregivers and their children to enhance the family unit promoting permanency, safety, and reduced reliance on detentions.

Program Components

Two Kinship Resource Centers staffed with experienced Children's Social Workers and Kinship Liaisons are available to assist relative caregivers.

Services are designed to assist relative caregivers in maintaining the kinship family unit and include:

The Mission of Kinship Support is to promote, increase and sustain permanency for all youth in relative care. This can be accomplished by providing education, supportive services, advocacy, mentoring and aftercare assistance that is easily accessible and meets the need of the child, family and community.

- Community Outreach
- Community Education
- Information and Referral
- Family Support through one-on-one intervention
- Advocacy during case planning activities to sustain and increase the success of the placement or informal arrangement
- Caregiver Support Groups
- Respite opportunities/Recreation

Note:

Supportive assistance is also available and provided at each Resource Center to probate relative legal guardians and informal kinship supporting the department's prevention efforts.

Resource Center Locations:

Kinship South

9834 Norwalk Blvd.

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

For Directions to Kinship South from your location, please click on the MapQuest Link

[MapQuest](#)

Kinship North

5035 W. Slauson Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90056

For Directions to Kinship South from your location, please click on the MapQuest Link

[MapQuest](#)

*Kinship has an out-stationed staff member at Edmund D. Edelman's Children's Court, located at 201 Centre Plaza Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91754. Please call (323) 526-6082 for available times.

[MapQuest](#)

Additional Information:

[Kinship Brochure \(English/Spanish\)](#)

[Kinship Support Groups](#)

[Kinship Support Groups \(Spanish\)](#)

[CAL-WORKS Assistance](#)

Los Angeles County
Department of Children and
Family Services
425 Shatto Place
Los Angeles, CA 90020

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

KinshipCareServices

Providing a Home, A Future to Relative Caregivers

[Contact Us](#)[DCFS Internet Site](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is a Kinship Resource Center?

A. The Kinship Resources Centers are staffed with Children Social Workers (CSWs) who have the experience, knowledge and training to provide support to relative caregiver families to enhance the promoting of permanency, safety and reduced reliance on foster care as a placement option.

Q. What is the purpose of the Kinship Resource Center?

A. The purpose of the Kinship Resource Centers is to provide a linkage for relative care providers to public and private community-based resources. And to assist relative caregivers in maintaining their kinship family units.

Q. What are the available services and resources?

A. The services and resources are, but are not limited to:

- Community Outreach
- Community Education
- Information and Referral
- Family Support through one-on-one intervention
- Advocacy during case planning activities to sustain and increase the success of the placement or informal arrangement
- Caregiver Support Groups
- Respite opportunities/Recreation

Q. Are the services free?

A. Yes, there is no charge

Q. How do I apply for assistance?

A. Call 1 (888)694-7263

The Mission of Kinship Support is to promote, increase and sustain permanency for all youth in relative care. This can be accomplished by providing education, supportive services, advocacy, mentoring and aftercare assistance that is easily accessible and meets the need of the child, family and community.

Los Angeles County
Department of Children and
Family Services
425 Shatto Place
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Department Goals	Community Outcomes	Caregiver's Outcome	Child Outcome
<p>Improve Child Safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services will be equitable to those available in affluent areas and will be delivered within or in close proximity to families caring for kinship youth; to assure safe neighborhoods and homes that protect children from risk or harm; • Relative/Non-Relative Extended Family Members in every community will have proficient knowledge and understanding of the information necessary to be empowered in advocating for safe neighborhoods and homes for youth living with Kin; • Services and resources essential to sustain safe homes and encourage strong relationships that mentor and support youth in making safe choices and decisions that protect them from harm will be available in all communities; • Mental and Physical Health care screening and follow-up services will be available for all youth in their own community; • Social and developmental activities that encourage the development and improvement of meaningful relationships and safety networks to assist youth in becoming honest and productive citizens will be present within each community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to locate essential services to address and promote the continuous safety needs of youth within or in close proximity to their own community; • Comprehensive understanding of the benefits of early care and education and know how to access respite care services for relief • Actively seek out, participate, and contribute significant input to local community advocacy and support groups in order to improve the development of policies and service oriented practices that encourage safety; • Actively participate in and contribute to the development of new policies and practices that strengthen the safety net for all youth within the community; • Comprehensive understanding of the principles and benefits of factors that contribute to safe and protective environments; • Awareness of those policies that promote continuous safety and accepts and understands their role in assuring that youth are reared in safe communities and safe homes; • Acknowledges and accepts their role and responsibility to raise children in safe and protected environments free of all adverse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition and demonstration of the skills necessary to make sound decisions and use good judgment in navigating un-safe environments; • Open and honest communication with caregiver that supports their ability to safely monitor the activities of their child; • Youth possess the ability to describe their specific needs in order to achieve success; • Safe passage for school aged children; • The ability and willingness to comply with the expectations established by the caregiver; • Have a clear understanding of the importance of boundaries with others.

		risks and danger.	
Decreased Timelines to Permanency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth in Kinship care will always be included in and provided the essential information to make informed decisions during all permanency planning endeavors; Community advocates, neighborhood leaders and educators will accept their role and responsibly too participate in permanency planning sessions and encourage stable home environments within communities; Communities and its members will have a comprehensive understanding of the value and importance of encouraging emotional and social supports for youth at risk of not being able to return to their homes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands and are fully committed to the values & options of permanency, and the impact on the development of youth will be embraced by all Kinship caregiver's; Strong and demonstrated competence in the ability to locate resources in their own community that assist with stabilizing a child in a sustained Kin environment; Caregiver's are thoroughly informed of the permanency rights of children in Kinship Care, and the timeframes in which these rights must be exercised; Available to assist others in building strong bonding relationships with youth placed with Kin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stable attachments and meaningful relationships with adults significant in the life of a child/youth which leads to caring and committed home environments; Sustained relationships that are loving and caring to all youth; Children/youth feel a sense of belonging to their home, community and neighborhood; Children/youth experience a sense of relief in their home and community; Children/youth experience academic success, stability, and support within their home and community.
Reduce Reliance on Out of Home Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relative/NREFM and other community leaders will be active participants in educating communities and its citizens to advocate for legislative changes that support building strong communities that are capable of sustaining youth safely within their own neighborhoods; Communities will have comprehensive awareness of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relative caregivers will advocate to have children remain in their own homes and communities assisted with support from within the many social & supportive networks that exist within each community; Children in Kinship Care will have academic resources available to them that promote academic success and support placement stability; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family connection is the principle values adopted by every community and accepted by all youth; Positive youth and family supports are available within communities to aid in strengthening and sustaining family connections; Youth openly accept strong and

	<p>importance that they play in supporting Relative/NREFM in maintaining safe communities and homes for all children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Schools will recognize the academic issues of youth in relative care and be open to collaborating with Relative/ NREFM to encourage continuous academic success while retaining the youth in their school of origin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supportive services will be sought after to reduce or eliminate any potential placement disruption; Participation in support groups will become a priority for all kinship caregiver's. The undesirable outcomes of disparity and disproportionality will have a minimal effect on children placed in the homes of Kinship Caregivers. 	<p>committed relationships;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic excellence is the pursuit of every youth within every community; Children/youth have positive opportunities to experience success and build or increase self-esteem
Increased Children, Youth and Family Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children ages birth to age 5 will have received a comprehensive Developmental Screening; Every child will have a comprehensive Educational Plan that is tailored to their specific academic needs; All children will have a Physical and Dental Health screening by age 5; Communities will have comprehensive extracurricular programs that promote optimum physical health, social and emotional development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children placed in the homes of Kin will receive high quality dental care; Supportive services and resources will be easily accessed in all communities and will be targeted to assist caregivers in providing optimal care; Caregiver's will be able to distinguish the signs of behavioral concerns in youth; Caregiver's will have the ability to acknowledge the importance of positive bonding and relationship building on the development of social skills of youth in their care; Sibling and bio-family visits will be promoted and fully supported in all communities; Comprehensive academic planning will be a community expectation for all youth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unrestricted access to mental health services and support in all communities; Academic success is a priority for all youth entering the child welfare system; Positive peer mentorship and guidance is available to youth in all communities and schools; Trusting relationships with adults that contribute to positive social and emotional development; Adept in the use of sound judgment to make appropriate choices in life.
Enhance organizational Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All services will be culturally enriched and accessible to families within their own community networks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cultural characteristics of communities will be considered during the separation and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self determination and the ability to take the initiative will be a principle characteristic

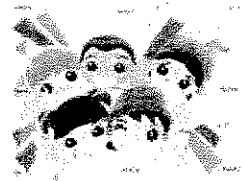
LA County DCFS Kinship Outcomes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Welfare workforce will be properly trained, sensitive and respectful to the unique needs of families caring for kin; • Child Welfare policies and practices will acknowledge the adverse impacts of poverty and evaluate how they affect the delivery of services to specific communities. 	<p>placement of youth;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caregiver's will openly comment on and advocate for the needs of children both in and out of their care; • The legal and human rights of children in Kinship Care will be known and supported 	<p>which will contribute to youth advocating for the improvement of practices within child welfare;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth will be capable of communicating the most essential services that enhance qualitative changes in delivery of services and supports to youth in Kinship Care; • Youth will have an empowered and united voice as they advocate for supportive change in child welfare practices.
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Sources used to contribute to this document include the following:

- DCFS Kinship Logic Model;
- DCFS Mission Statement;
- Administration of Human Services Child Welfare Outcomes
- LA County Children and Families Commission Kinship Cabinet Permanency Report)

DCFS Kinship Support Division



Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

Volume 1-September 2011

What is Assembly Bill 12 (AB12)?

On September 30, 2010, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law the California Fostering Connections to Success Act, also known as Assembly Bill 12 (Beall, Bass).

According to the national data, one out of every five youth who "age-out" of foster care will receive the ongoing support of the child welfare system up to age 21, with the goal of ending the era of neglect and promote stability to the transitioning youth.

The new, federally-funded subsidized guardianship program has been introduced, and thousands of relative caregivers are expected to participate and receive ongoing support to promote the stability and well-being of the children in their care. (<http://www.cafosteringconnections.org/>)

One of the tasks of the Kinship Support Division in the implementation of AB12 is to contact every Kin-GAP caregiver and assist them in understanding the necessary agreement in order for Revenue Enhancement to convert from state to federal all eligible Kin-GAP cases. This monumental task needs to be completed by December 31, 2011 to ensure that aid and funding will continue for all relative caregivers.

The AB 12 Kin-GAP conversion process began in April 2011, and to date nearly 50 percent of the approximately 6,500 Kin-GAP caregivers have been personally-assisted by Kinship Division Social Workers!

CONGRATULATIONS KINSHIP STAFF FOR A JOB WELL DONE!!!!

Upcoming Assembly Bill 12 Workshops will be held at the following locations and times:

DCFS-Torrance (Room A & B)
2325 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90501
September 14, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

DCFS- Lakewood (Room A-ER Section)
4060 Watson Plaza Dr., Lakewood, CA 90712
September 21, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

L.A. Harbor College
(Large Conference Room/Room A)
1111 Figueroa Place, Wilmington, CA 90744
September 24, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE:

RELATIVE CAREGIVER CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

December 17, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For Whittier reservation, contact (562) 777-1751

For Marina del Rey reservation, contact (323) 298-3515

DID YOU KNOW ...

- Current Department data indicates that 50% of children in out of home care (7,708) are placed in the homes of relatives;
- There are 6,750 children receiving Kin-GAP subsidy and receive supportive services and assistance through our Kinship Centers' staff and community partners;
- Another 2,211 children are placed in the homes of Legal Guardians who also seek assistance through our Kinship Centers as many of them only have contact with their assigned CSW once every six months;
- In the period January through July 2011, 56 Kinship caregivers and 63 parents were assisted by Kinship Staff resulting in their not filing a WIC 388 petition to reinstate juvenile court jurisdiction. This was a 56% and 57% reduction respectively in petitions to have children's jurisdiction reinstated and re-enter active caseloads;
- From January through July 2011, 3,552 caregivers requested and were provided assistance at both Kinship Centers;
- From January 2011 through June 2011, 1,587 caregivers attended a support group or other activity in the Centers;
- Since the implementation of Assembly Bill 12, the Kinship Centers have been the base location and repository of records for the 3,133 caregivers that have been supported in obtaining the signed SOC 369A in support of the AB 12 conversion effort;
- Supportive assistance is also available and provided at each Center to Probate Guardian and informal kinship placements which support our prevention effort.

Additional services provided by the Kinship Division include:

- Community Outreach
- Community Education
- Information and Referral
- Family Support through one-on-one intervention
- Permanency Planning
- Caregiver Support Groups
- Respite/Recreation
- And More!

Please visit us on LA Kids at

<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>

or for inquiries, feedback and schedule of support groups, please contact us at:





Department of Children and Family Services

Kinship Support Division

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

Volume 2: October 2011

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: "You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do." —**Eleanor Roosevelt**

KINSHIP HERO--GLYNNDEAN SUGGS: This month, Kinship introduces you to Glynndean Suggs, one of DCFS's finest, not only because she has been a hard working CSW for 15 years, and worked for DPSS 15 years prior, but because she was also a relative caregiver just like many of you! Ms. Suggs clearly remembered the day of June 1991, while working at the DPSS office, receiving a telephone call from someone crying. "It was my sister. She said, 'DCFS is here to take my kids.'" Ms. Suggs was honest in stating that it was hard for her to take care of her nieces and nephews while also working and caring for her own 15-year-old daughter. "It was a tough drive every weekend from San Bernardino to Long Beach where my sister was in treatment. I cried when I found out my sister was not doing her part in the program and had left it. After I got over my cry, I let the kids know that we were going to be a family." Ms. Suggs praised her DPSS supervisors for being "Awesome", and allowing her to go to school meetings for her nephew, when he was having difficulties settling in a new school. She also credits a neighbourhood support system that helped her care for the children.

When asked if she had any advice for relative caregivers, Ms. Suggs stated, "Go into the plan (with the child) realistically. Know how long the process takes. Take advantage of the **support system**." Ms. Suggs (without any special treats given to her under our interview table) stated that she wished that there would have been a Kinship Program when she was going through the system herself. She stated, "It would have been nice to have a support system that knows exactly what you are going through."

GIVE BY THE POWER OF INSPIRATION: DCFS Kinship Division would like to hear your inspirational stories regarding caregivers, children and or CSWs to compile in a yearly memory book. Please try to keep your stories to no more than one 8x10 page. E-mail your stories to: chavem@dcfs.lacounty.gov. No access to a computer, no problem—write up your story and mail it to: Marianne Yamato, Kinship Resource Center South, 9834 Norwalk Blvd., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670.

IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME: KINSHIP'S RESOURCES OF THE MONTH



***Black Mat MMA:** 12200 East Washington Blvd, Suite J, Whittier, CA 90606. Black Mat's vision is to reach as many at risk kids as possible. The program offers an after school program, having the kids do their homework before working out! For more information, visit: www.blackmatmma.org or contact Coach Koon at: 323-864-4385. Let him know DCFS Kinship sent you!

***Kinship Division at Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court:** After assessing the need of relative caregivers who were requesting assistance in filing 388 petition forms (to change visitation orders, add co-legal guardians, and terminate guardianships), Kinship's Diana Alcantara began an out-stationed Kinship Support Resource Center at Children's Court, and Marianne Yamato recently took over there. The program remains strong today and a valuable resource for relative caregivers. For questions and or assistance please call: (323) 526-6082.

BONDING ACTIVITY FOR CAREGIVERS AND CHILDREN: (from Adopting.org website)

Creating a family tree chart, drawing, or diagram can be fun, creative, and a great idea for a family day together. Family tree projects are also frequent school assignments. Traditional charts and drawings often do not accommodate foster or relative families. Here's a good alternative:

Hedgerow: In a drawing, children represent each current family member as a bush in a row of bushes. Roots can be labeled as birth parents, grandparents, foster parents, different countries of origin, etc. The finished hedgerow shows the blended strength of many individual plants.



KIDS' CORNER: Kinship South is looking for teenagers between the ages of 13-17 who are interested in joining a teen group, meeting once a month at: 9834 Norwalk Blvd., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90607. Call Marianne Yamato at (562) 324-5282 to express interest.

STRICTLY BUSINESS:

UPCOMING ASSEMBLY BILL 12 WORKSHOPS will be held at the following locations:

October 5, 2011: DCFS-West Los Angeles, 5757 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 200, LA, CA 90036, Conference Room A, 10am-5pm.

October 12, 2011: DCFS-Vermont Corridor, 8300 S. Vermont Ave. LA, CA 90044, 1st Floor Conference Room, 10am-3pm.

October 19, 2011: DCFS-Compton, 921 E. Compton Blvd. Compton, CA 90221, Room G-08, 10am to 5pm.

October 29, 2011: Rita Waters Learning Complex, 915 W. Manchester Ave. LA, CA 90044, in Cafeteria, 10am to 3pm.

COMPLETION OF THE SOC 369 AND SOC 369A:

The California Department of Social Services has made the determination that if the SOC 369 and SOC 369A forms were not completed and signed **prior** to the establishment of guardianship, the child will NOT be eligible for Kin-GAP benefits. Please contact Kinship at 1-888-694-7263 if you have any questions.

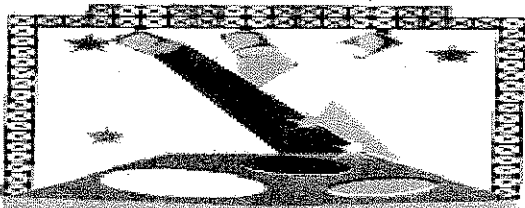
SAVE THE DATE!

Relative Caregiver Christmas Celebrations

December 10, 2011, Marina Del Rey, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; For reservation, contact (323) 298-3515

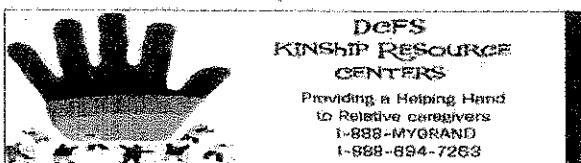
December 17, 2011, Whittier, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; For reservation, contact (562) 777-1751

**If you have any special talent that you would like to share at the Christmas Celebration, please contact Marianne Yamato at: (562) 324-5282.*



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT... Congratulations to the Kinship Support Section!!!

In October, 2011, the Kinship Support Section will be honored with the prestigious Director's Employee Recognition Award (DERA) as a team. The staff has displayed a continuous commitment towards connecting with relative caregivers. Through mailings, phone calls, support groups, home calls, and meeting with walk-ins to the Kinship Resource Centers, this small number of staff has remained available and dedicated to meeting the needs of relative caregivers and the children in their care. This not only increases safety for these children but also reduces detention from relatives who feel they no longer have the support and/or resources they need to provide adequate care for their kin. Kinship staff has been instrumental in educating Kin-GAP caregivers about Assembly Bill 12 and in helping the relative legal guardians complete the necessary paperwork for conversion.



ASK-A-PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Betsy Blankfield, RN, BSN, PHN



Question: My children are overweight—and we celebrate Halloween. Any ideas on how to keep less candy around without spoiling the fun?

Answer: Halloween does NOT have to be a scary season dominated by The Sugar Monster! There are many things you can do to enjoy a healthier time of Trick or Treat and still have fun. Some families play a game called **The Switch Witch**. After the candy is collected, children leave the whole bag of candy out for The Switch Witch. In the morning, the candy is gone and replaced by a special toy brought by the Switch Witch. This is a good option for children with Diabetes, too. Some children fantasize about a Halloween costume all year. Playing imaginatively as a pirate, a tiger, a princess, a super-hero, etc., engages children's speech, drama and storytelling skills. Be part of the playful fun. Get a silly hat or simple mask for your eyes. Halloween is about more than candy. As you help kids conquer The Sugar Monster, pat yourself on the back for inviting health into your lives this Halloween.

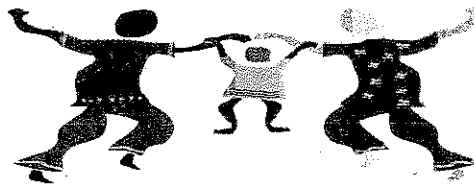
(Ask-A-Public Health Nurse, all rights reserved, 2011, Betsy Blankfield, PHN)

Planning Stage-Kinship Conference:

The Kinship Division is in the planning stage of a Kinship Conference in the Spring and requests your suggestions for topics. Please e-mail any suggestions to Program Manager Michael Scoggins at scoggm@dcfs.lacounty.gov.

Questions? Please call Kinship at the telephone number below or e-mail any questions to Program Manager Rosella Yousef at: youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov. We are also on the internet at <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/> (click on the Kinship section to the far right of the page.)

Way to go Kinship Support Services staff and those who have pitched in for this monumental task! Our families are benefiting from your perseverance and commitment to support every relative caregiver in need of a helping hand!



Department of Children and Family Services
Kinship Support Division

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers
 Volume 3: November 2011

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit." *Albert Schweitzer*

IS HAVING A CO-GUARDIAN A GOOD OPTION FOR YOU? By Marianne Yamato, CSA I with the Kinship Division

I was recently in a tear jerker meeting at DCFS. A child with special needs had been put into DCFS custody as her Legal Guardian had passed. At the meeting, a distant half-sibling came in tears not only because she had lost her mother, but because her sibling was now in foster care. With background checks, home inspections and everything else that is needed before the child could be placed in the sister's home (as required by Law), all that I could see was days passing!

If you are experiencing any life-threatening situations, or just want to be proactive in planning for your child's future, you may want to consider having a Co-Guardian for your child. You need to file what is called the JV-180 form requesting a WIC 388 Petition, for an order to be made. DCFS Kinship can help you. Call (323) 526-6082 if you have any questions or would like assistance.

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IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME--  
KINSHIP'S RESOURCES OF THE MONTH:

\*Komputers 4 R Kids: 16317 ½ Piuma Ave., Cerritos, CA 90703, (562) 860-7463, [www.K4RK.org](http://www.K4RK.org).

**Need a computer? Low on cash?**

This non-profit agency refurbishes computers and provides them to needy families at either no or low cost, as low as \$40. Komputers 4 R Kids also accepts your donations of old computers to use for parts. Think Green and check out Komputers 4 R Kids!

\*Tomorrow's Future: 5824 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035, (323) 468-9760.

Tomorrow's Future is the Los Angeles Police Department's first ever youth mentoring center. The center serves children from the ages of 10-18 years old from 2pm until 7pm. The program is **free**! Children come to the center and first complete their homework. UCLA students are mentors and tutors for the program. After their homework is done, recreational activities are available including a video game center, arts and crafts and computer center.

Officer Catherine Massey is the Center's coordinator. She stated that the children that come to the center often need help with structure. She and Officer Kirk Barnes are there to help them with that structure, and to just help them with their life and appropriate social skills. Eighty-eight children are currently using the center. Parents are continuously expressing satisfaction that their children are safe. Local teachers have expressed their satisfaction that their students are completing their homework. There has been an 8% reduction in crime around the center's location.

Check out and support this center today!



KIDS CORNER: Kinship is looking for teenagers between the ages of 13-17 who are interested in joining a teen group in Santa Fe Springs, CA 90607. Call Marianne Yamato at (562) 324-5282 if you are interested. We are waiting for YOU!

**LOCAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OFFERS  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN UNIQUE  
CORPORATE PROGRAM:**

Verbum Dei High School, 11100 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90059, (323) 564-6651, offers a corporate internship program that supports young men who are economically and academically underserved. Since 2002, an innovative Corporate Work Study Program is the primary means of financial support for the children to attend this private school. ***No student is denied admission for financial reasons.*** The work study program requires students to work five days per month, as a member of a four-student team employed by local firms who pay the school for services rendered. Students gain work experience by performing entry level clerical work in professional environments such as law, accounting, financial service firms, health care, etc. For more information contact CSA Ron Rios at: [riosr@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:riosr@dcfs.lacounty.gov)



**STRICTLY BUSINESS:**

**UPCOMING ASSEMBLY BILL 12 WORKSHOPS** will be held at the following locations:

November 2, 2011: Glendora DCFS Office, 725 S. Grand Ave., Glendora, CA, Room 1689, 10am-5pm.

November 9, 2011: Pasadena DCFS Office, 532 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 10am-5pm.

November 16, 2011: El Monte DCFS Office, 4024 N. Durfee Ave. El Monte, CA, Interview Room, 10am-5pm.

November 16, 2011: Lancaster DCFS Office, 1150 West Avenue J, Lancaster, CA, 10am-5pm.

November 19, 2011: Nativity Catholic Church, 3743 N. Tyler Ave. El Monte, CA, Parish Center, 10am-3pm.

RSVP by calling (562) 777-1751 as soon as possible.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

***Relative Caregiver Christmas Celebration:***

For Marina Del Rey reservation, contact (323) 298-3515 (December 10, 2011 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm)

For Whittier reservation, contact (562) 777-1751 (December 17, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

*\*If you have any special talent that you would like to share at the Christmas Celebration(s), please contact Marianne Yamato at: (562) 324-5282.*

Thanksgiving is rapidly approaching. Thoughts of turkey, pie, and family usually come to mind. In these times of celebration, tension often occurs between families. Public Health Nurse, Betsy Blankfield, RN, BSN, PHN, provides Kinship with some useful information.

**Question:** I never hit anybody. Why do people say



**I NEED ANGER MANAGEMENT?!!**

Even if anger does not lead to violence, anger expressed in the form of verbal abuse, intimidating or threatening behaviors can have negative results. Your loved ones, friends and co-workers may resent angry outbursts and be frightened. Family members may stop trusting you, and children will express anger in the same ways. Don't forget the simple truth: angry words hurt and cause pain, long after they are spoken. Learn to be aware of the anger habit, and learn strategies to control anger. This is the goal of anger management therapy. You also get support from others in the process. Typically, anger management group counseling involves 12 weekly sessions. The way we express anger is usually influenced by the family we grew up in. Make a new family tradition of no rages, no hurtful words, no threats expressed in anger. In L.A. County, call 211 for a referral to an affordable mental health provider located close to you.

Information contained in this month's Ask-A-Public Health Nurse column is based on a publication of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Anger Management Therapy Manual". Betsy Blankfield, Public Health Nurse, All Rights Reserved, 2011. Contact: [blankba@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:blankba@dcfs.lacounty.gov).

**Questions?** Please call Kinship at 1-562-777-1751 or 1-888-MYGRAND, or e-mail any questions to [youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov). We are also on the internet at <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/> (click on the Kinship section to the far right of the page.)

**Happy  
Thanksgiving**





Department of Children and Family Services

**Kinship Support Division**

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

Volume IV: December 2011

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:**

***If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.*** -Yogi Berra

**KINSHIP SPOTLIGHT:**

By Harriett Minke, CSA I

Cheral Hymen is a child advocate/relative caregiver residing in the Antelope Valley. She offers 24 hour emergency support to all relative caregivers. She tirelessly assists relative caregivers with their multitude of questions and needs.

Ms. Hymen is the founder of **ROCK** (Raising Our Children's Kids). ROCK is a group for relatives that come together weekly to support and educate each other. Cheral helps them with their individual issues and navigates them to resources and agencies that will be able to assist them further. ROCK support groups also have English to Spanish translation available for each meeting.

Ms. Hymen works closely with the administrators and Children's Social Workers in the Palmdale/Lancaster area. She attends case planning meetings and in her spare time she drives relatives with no transportation to important appointments. Cheral Hymen also partners with the Antelope Valley College to encourage the new relative caregivers to take part in their Kinship Orientation classes.

Cheral and her family find and keep used furniture, beds and appliances for the relative caregivers that are in need. She has even been known to deliver the furniture to the needy family if they have no other means for pick up. Cheral's warmth, compassion, kindness and knowledge is just what a relative caregiver needs when they enter the DCFS System. Our Kinship Support Division thanks Ms. Cheral Hymen and her efforts to make the relative caregiver feel supported and surrounded with love. Relatives can contact Ms. Hymen at 661-478-1881 for more information and assistance.



**IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME:  
KINSHIP'S RESOURCES OF THE  
MONTH:**



**\*Fair Housing:**

Is your rented apartment complex or home in the process of foreclosure? Are you wondering if you need to continue to pay rent? What are your rights? Call Fair housing at (562) 989-1206.

**\*Southern California Edison Programs:**

You can receive a discount of 20% or more on your monthly electric bill if you meet income qualifications. Call: (800) 447-6620. SCE also helps residential customers by providing up to \$100 towards your energy bill if you meet income qualifications. This offer is available once during a 12 month period.

Call: (800) 205-4777 to discuss your options.

**FOR KIDS:**

**\*The YMCA of the West San Gabriel Valley-  
Junior Fit Club:**

Calling all caregivers with children in San Gabriel and Alhambra School Districts -- If your child is in grades Kindergarten -8<sup>th</sup> grade, they may benefit from participation in the West San Gabriel Valley YMCA, 401 East Corto St. Alhambra, CA 91801. In order to combat the growth in childhood diabetes and to help parents with afterschool care, the YMCA is offering a Junior Fit Club. Children come to the YMCA after school where homework assistance is provided from 3-4pm. From 4-5:30pm, children participate in a fitness class. From 5:30-6pm, reading and checkout. The fee is \$100 per month. No membership fee is required and snack is provided.

Call (626) 576-0226 for more information.

**NextSteps:**

**What's Up 4 U After High School?**

Foster youth 14-18 meet weekly with Mentors, Tutors & Volunteers and are engaged in activities with real-world applications to prepare for life after age 18. Meetings are held

each Thursday evening 3:30pm-7:30pm. (Dinner included) NextSteps is located at: 336 E. Kelso Street, Inglewood, CA 90301. For more information call 310-673-1686 or email [nextsteps@mac.com](mailto:nextsteps@mac.com)

**\*Department of Consumer Affairs(DCA):**

DCA is available for youth and adults to help protect themselves from credit fraud and ID theft. In June 2011, DCA was able to clear the records of 104 foster youth aged 16 of credit fraud. For more information, call (213) 974-9459.



Question: I had a flu shot once and got sick with the flu. Why should I get a flu shot again?

Answer: Don't blame the flu shot. The flu shot cannot give you the flu because it has an inactivated vaccine, which means it cannot cause infection. What caused your illness may have been exposure to the flu virus shortly before you received your flu shot. Keep in mind that it takes about two weeks for the body's immune system to develop antibodies that will give you protection from the flu.

The 2011-2012 influenza (flu) vaccine contains protection against three viruses that research indicates will be the most common. There are many different influenza viruses in circulation, and other viruses that may cause illness with flu-like symptoms. The flu vaccine cannot protect you from other viruses, only the three, targeted strains of virus in the vaccine. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends flu vaccine for everyone ages 6 months and older. If you had the flu vaccine last year, it does not give you protection against seasonal flu this year.

People who have a flu infection can infect others, for about one day before showing signs of being sick. Because people can infect others up to 5 to 7 days after they become sick, it is important to limit your contact with others when you are sick. If you do get the flu, antiviral drugs can help treat your illness, but these need to be given within the first two days of symptoms. Respiratory germs enter the body through touching the nose, the eyes and the

mouth. Cover your cough. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you sneeze. Make sure tissues are placed in the trash. Children learn in school the proper way to wash their hands and can probably demonstrate this. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water. A hand-sanitizer is okay, if no soap or water are available.

There is a nasal spray flu vaccine available for ages 2 to 49 years, that has been in use for several years. It also takes time to develop antibodies with this vaccine, which is "live", but very weakened. Some individuals with underlying health conditions are not given the nasal spray vaccine. Consult with your MD and your child's pediatrician for more information.

Vaccines are a Medi-Cal covered benefit. It is not too late in the season to still get a flu shot. If you, or a family member, are very obese, have a chronic illness like diabetes, asthma, heart disease, etc., you are at high risk for developing flu-related complications and especially need to protect your health. But remember, everyone age 6 months and older is recommended to get a flu vaccine, every year. With warm wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season.

Information from this column is based on CDC Seasonal Influenza and Key Facts About Influenza and Flu Vaccine, available at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). Ask-A-Public Health Nurse, all rights reserved. Betsy Blankfield, Public Health Nurse.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Kinship Resource Center South is planning a series of informative discussion topics for caregivers and for children / teens. Our first meeting will be on 01/12/2011. Light dinner will be provided. Call (562) 324-5282 for more information.

**Questions?** Please call Kinship at the telephone number below or e-mail any questions to [youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov). We are also on the internet at <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/> (click on the Kinship section to the far right of the page.) See you next month ☺





Department of Children and Family Services

**Kinship Support Division**

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

Volume II, Issue I, January 2012

**Quote of the Month:**

*In a mirror is where we find a reflection of our appearances, but in a heart is where we find a reflection of our soul. By, "Unknown"*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR KINSHIP FAMILIES!**



As we begin the year, it is exciting to see so many new faces and hear so many stories that highlight your compassion and dedication to children. Together we can make a difference in a child's life.

Thank you to the families that were able to participate in the two Kinship Holiday Parties. Thank you to the Kinship staff for spending countless hours preparing for the parties. Kinship would also like to send a special appreciation to Stephen and Stacy Johnson for donating their photography services to the Kinship South Party, Edward and Patricia Barquera for donating their sound equipment and MC abilities, as well as Edward Benford and the Hermosa Beach Christmas Crew for their high energy dance performance! Here is a photo of the Kinship Choir in action!



Huge hugs to the DCFS Kinship Staff for processing more than 6,000 applications for the AB12 federal funding program for relative caregivers.

Kinship has been challenged to make our Division, "5 Star" in 2012... "WE WILL NOT FAIL", as we have great motivation (you and your children)! You can look forward to an exciting year ahead.

—Marianne Yamato, CSA I

**Kinship Spotlight**

**Betty Halle, Office of Samoan Affairs**

By Marianne Yamato, CSA I

Betty Halle is "not your ordinary" agency coordinator. Ms. Halle has worked at the Office of Samoan Affairs since, "July 2005 when they asked me to start a support group and we named it Advocates 4 Family Caregivers." It was obvious at my first meeting with Ms. Halle that it is her energy and passion to help others that has made her a true advocate for the people. Ms. Halle advocates for whatever is needed for caregivers and parents. She spoke of helping people to file for divorce, helping people expunge their past criminal records (which is often a "hold-up" when placing children with caregivers), and being a fighter or "advocate" for those that do not always know who to speak to or how to obtain resources that are needed. Ms. Halle is also a relative caregiver that has had custody of her granddaughter since 2004. Ms. Halle shared that she had lung cancer at the time when DCFS was placing her grandchild and was afraid that DCFS would not place the child with her due to her medical condition. Ms. Halle stated that she consulted with the Alliance for Children's Rights and eventually her granddaughter was placed with her. Ms. Halle talked of the trials having her granddaughter in her care, remembering one incident where her granddaughter, "took my keys and jumped on top of my car screaming." Ms. Halle stated that she found out through the Children's Institute at Harbor UCLA Hospital, that her granddaughter was not only upset at her but at everything and everybody.

Ms. Halle and the Office of Samoan Affairs is a great resource for relative caregivers (you do not have to be of Samoan descent). Anger management, domestic violence classes, marriage support groups, senior programs and relative support groups are offered at the center. The office is located at: 20715 S. Avalon Blvd. Carson, CA 90746 (310) 538-8099. Visit Ms. Halle, and give her a big "High Five", from DCFS Kinship for all the great community work she has done and for stepping up to be a caregiver to her granddaughter.



### KINSHIP CONFERENCE COMING ...

The Kinship Division is in the planning stage of a Kinship Conference, and requests your suggestions for topics. Please e-mail any suggestions to Dr. Michael Scoggins at [scoggm@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:scoggm@dcfs.lacounty.gov).

### ASFA Supervisor, Claudia Bustillos-Cook answers one of Relative Caregivers' Most Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Home Approval Process:

**Q:** I am taking care of a relative child. When will my financial payment begin from DCFS?

**A:** Payment begins on the date that a home is approved once all ASFA standards are met. The ASFA home assessment has five components:

- \*The assessment of criminal history on all adults (18 years of age and older) in the home or with significant contact with the children;
- \*The assessment of the caregiver's qualifications;
- \*The assessment of the home and grounds;
- \*A review of children's personal rights with the caregiver;
- \*Caregiver Orientation.

Visit Kinship's website and click the link to ASFA to access more information about this federal mandate.



### NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Assembly bill (AB) 938 requires county child welfare and probation departments to provide notification to relatives of children being placed in out-of-home care. For detailed information, see the State of California Department of Human Services Website at: [www.cdss.ca.gov](http://www.cdss.ca.gov) or call: (916) 657-1858

### RELATIVE CAREGIVER EVENT UNDERSTANDING ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD) IN CHILDREN AND TEENS

Date: Thursday, January 12, 2012

Time: 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Location: DCFS Kinship Resource Center South, 9834 Norwalk Blvd., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. Call (562) 777-1753 to reserve your spot.

Space is limited. Child and teen activities will be held at the same time so no one is left behind!

The Kinship Division will be offering MONTHLY topic of discussion meetings for caregivers, children and teens in 2012. Please call the Kinship Division at 562-777-1751 for more information or check our website and newsletter for updates at: <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>

### 20th Annual Community Wide Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Celebration

Date: Sunday, January 15, 2012

Time: 3 -5 p.m.

Location: Gospel Memorial Church of God in Christ, 1480 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813

For Questions, Please Call: 562-983-1665

Multi-Cultural Gathering

\* Multi-Religious Celebration

\* Music

\* Reception



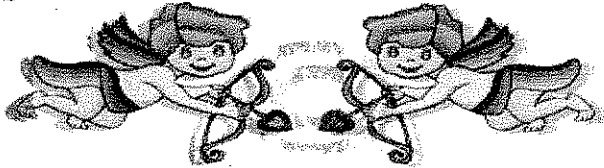


Department of Children and Family Services  
**Kinship Support Division**  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers  
Volume II, Issue 2, February 2012

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you've imagined. As you simply your life, the laws of the universe will be simpler. —Henry David Thoreau**

**KINSHIP STAFF IN ACTION:**

Hats off to the Kinship Staff who are piloting special projects in the Compton and Pomona Regional Offices adding extra support to Relative Caregivers. Kinship especially expresses gratitude to Kinship Staff involved in these projects including Beverly Miller, Toni Watson, Margarita Perez, Diana Alcantara, and Ryane Ware. Other Kinship Staff superstars deserving of recognition this month are: Elizabeth Harris for her exceptional work with a caregiver in the midst of being evicted from her home; Kinship Support Group Leaders, Barbara Barabino, Charles Brown, Cecilia Chang, Heidi Yeh, Viktor Cervantes, and Elizabeth Harris, for their dedicated help with the support groups. Last but not least, Kinship loves hearing from caregivers and CSWs when our staff has done a great job. Kinship salutes our own Margarita Perez for her exceptional work with a relative caregiver. A letter was received from the caregiver calling Ms. Perez, "A Jewel", and going over and beyond in assisting her with resources and finding the answers that she needed. This is us... DCFS KINSHIP. We are here to serve you. Have a great month.



**IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME: KINSHIP'S RESOURCE OF THE MONTH:**

***Southwestern Law School, Children's Rights Clinic:***  
3050 Wilshire Blvd. LA, CA 90010-1106. (213) 738-6621.  
The clinic provides representation to low-income children in the areas of school discipline, special education, and other education related issues. The clinic is staffed by law students who represent clients under close supervision of their law professor.

**EVENTS:**

***Thursday, February 9, 2012***, Kinship Support Division will be hosting an informational topic / discussion on: ***Trauma and Suicide Prevention in Children and Teens***. The presenters are mental health clinicians with the Department of Mental Health.

They will be here to educate as well as offer guidance with your particular concerns. Time: 5:15-7pm, Location: DCFS Kinship South Office, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. Call (562) 777-1753 to reserve your spot. Space is limited. (Care for your children and activities for them will be provided during the meeting. Light snack will be provided.) ***CALLING ALL TEENS: Please join us for snacks and discussion while the adults are in the meeting. We want to hear from YOU about what you would like in a Kinship Teen Group!***

***Tuesday, February 14, 2012***, Kinship Resource Center South ***Open House***. Drop in to our center any time from 8:30am to 4:30pm and see our center, meet staff and obtain resources in your area. 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

***Thursday, March 8, 2012***, Kinship Support Division will be hosting an informational topic / discussion on: ***Independent Living Program for DCFS Children***. Time: 5:15-7pm. Location: DCFS Kinship South Office, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. Call (562) 777-1753 to reserve your spot. Space is limited. (Care for your children and a group for your teens will be provided during the meeting.)

**KINSHIP CONFERENCE COMING ...**

The Kinship Division is in the planning stage of a Kinship Conference, and requests your suggestions for topics. Please e-mail any suggestions to: [scoggm@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:scoggm@dcfs.lacounty.gov)

**KINSHIP SUPPORT GROUPS:**

Kinship has numerous support groups running throughout LA County. Please visit our website at: <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/> (click on Kinship at the far left of the page) for the most up-to date times and dates of support groups.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY





## Department of Children and Family Services

### Kinship Support Division

## Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

Volume II, Issue 3, March 2012

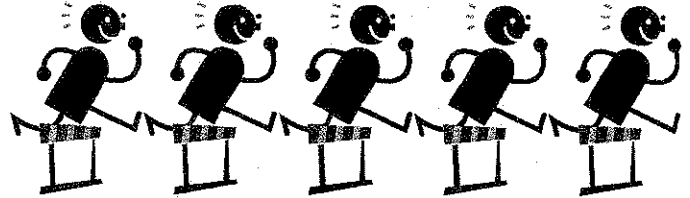
**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:** Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anyone else expects of you. Never excuse yourself. *-Henry Ward Beecher*

### KINSHIP IN ACTION

The Kinship Division has begun a campaign working closer on open cases in the Regional Offices. Thank you to the **Compton Regional Office** who has referred the most relative caregivers for support services to the Kinship Support Division in the month of January. Your preventative efforts in helping relative caregivers and children in their care is admirable. **WHO WILL BE THE REGIONAL OFFICE WITH THE MOST KINSHIP REFERRALS FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH?** Kinship referrals can be found on LAKIDS in the Kinship Website or on the internet at: <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/> (in the Kinship section). Referrals can be faxed to: the Kinship office at (562)777-1633 or e-mailed to [Youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:Youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov).

### IF YOU BUILD IT THEY WILL COME: KINSHIP'S HOT MONTHLY RESOURCES:

**\*Project Step Up** aims to prevent or reduce alcohol misuse in teens ages 13 to 18 years who had prenatal exposure to alcohol. The six-week program, which is funded by the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, includes separate one-hour group meetings for teens and their parents (caregivers). It uses proven strategies, such as motivational interviewing techniques, to help teens resist alcohol. Participating teens are compensated for their time with gift cards of up to \$60. Free pizza dinners are provided for both teens and their parents (caregivers) at each session. Meetings are held in the evenings to accommodate working parents (caregivers). All teens receive an examination by the project geneticist for the presence of a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, including a written report. DCFS training credit is given to participating foster parents / caregivers. **For more information and to determine eligibility for the study, please call: (310) 825-8738.**



**\*This Healthy Eating Lifestyle Program (HELP)** is currently being offered in several communities **free of charge** for families with one or more children ages 5-12 years that are overweight or obese (have a BMI in the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile or greater). This program is designed to educate *families* about healthy eating habits and the importance of play and physical activity. Piloted by the Los Angeles Chronic Disease Management Consortium at five hospitals in Los Angeles, the HELP program has significantly decreased body mass index (BMI) as well as improved knowledge and behaviors related to healthy lifestyles. The program consists of five weekly two-hour classes and a follow-up session three to six months after the end of the program. Most programs are offered in English and Spanish. If you are interested in making a referral or signing up for the class, please contact one of the sites below. General questions about the HELP program should be directed to Mia Arias, Program Director at (213) 538-0743. **FEEL BETTER TODAY!**

| HELP Location                                   | Phone Number | Program Contact   |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| St. Francis Medical Center, Lynwood             | 310-900-7402 | Jonathan Sandoval |
| Huntington Hospital Pasadena                    | 626-397-3660 | Hazel Garcia      |
| San Antonio Community Hospital, Upland          | 909-920-6153 | Kristen Compean   |
| Torrance Memorial Medical Center, Torrance      | 310-517-4711 | Helaine Lopes     |
| Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, Pomona   | 909-630-7785 | Leigh Cornell     |
| California Hospital Medical Center, Los Angeles | 213-742-5569 | Marta Connor      |



## SAVE THE DATE:

\*Kinship Support Division South, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, 90670 will be hosting a meeting on **Educational Issues** facing our children on Thursday, April 12, 2012 from 5:15-7pm. Call (562) 324-5282 for specific educational questions that you would like answered from our DCFS educational consultant.

### **\*Kinship Conference Coming ...**

Thursday, June 7, 2012 – MORE INFORMATION WILL BE ON IT'S WAY...



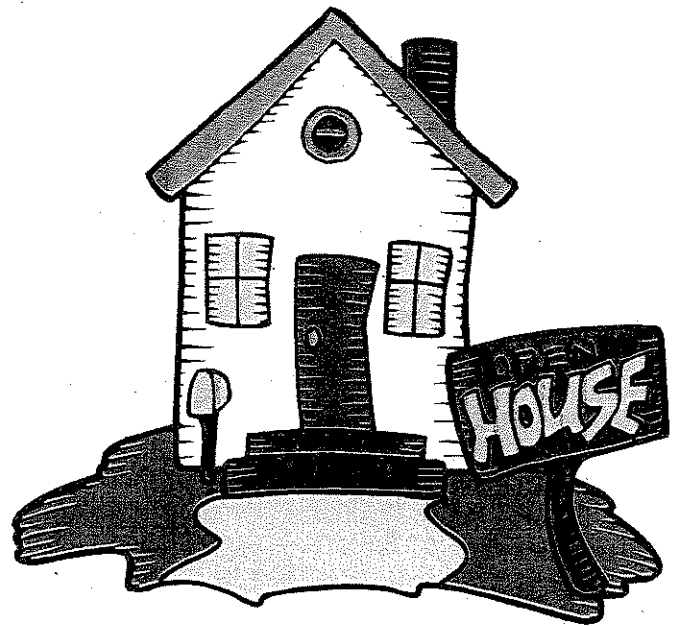
## **EVENTS:**

**\*AB-12 and Shared Living Agreements Workshop,**  
Date: Mar. 17, 2012, Location: Pasadena City College Community Education Center 3035 E. Foothill Blvd. Pasadena, CA. Room: Bungalow 5 (near the rear parking lot), Time: 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

### **\*Kinship Orientation Training**

Date: March 22, 2012, Location: DCFS Kinship Resource Center (South), 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90601, Time: 9:30 – 1:30pm, **Lunch will be provided.**

Presented by Rio Hondo College. Please call (562) 908-3435 to register.



## KINSHIP IS HAVING AN **OPEN HOUSE**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 10, FROM 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
JOIN US!**

**9834 NORWALK BLVD., SANTA FE SPRINGS.**

Meet staff and learn about the many exciting activities coming your way! Refreshments and goodies provided.

## **ARE YOU A RELATIVE CAREGIVER?**

Encore Parenting: Navigating Generations wants to hear from YOU!!! IF YOU ARE A RELATIVE CAREGIVER WHO RESIDES IN DCFS SPA 3 AND 8 ZIP CODES, by participating in a simple relative caregiver survey, you will be repaid by not only knowing you have given your feedback directly to our federal government, but you will also be given a \$20 Target gift card (while supplies last)! You can complete the survey with Encore staff at the Kinship Open House on April 10 or by calling Encore at 1-888-4KINSHIP to find out how you can participate in providing this vital information and receive a gift card. Not sure you qualify? Just give Encore a call. We cannot make a difference WITHOUT YOU!

## KINSHIP SUPPORT GROUPS:

When: 1<sup>st</sup> **Tuesday** of the Month **March 6, 2012**, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Where: DCFS Kinship Resource Center North, 5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G, **Los Angeles** 90056, Contact: Barbara Barabino CSW III, (323) 298-6016 or (323) 298-3515

When: 2<sup>nd</sup> **Wednesday** of the Month **March 14, 2012** 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Where: Apostolic Christian Fellowship Church, 7601 Crenshaw Blvd, **Los Angeles, CA** 90043, Topic: **Department of Mental Health- Trauma and Suicidality**, Contact: Elizabeth Harris, CSW III – Phone (562) 777-1751

When: 3<sup>rd</sup> **Thursday** of the Month **March 15, 2012**, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Where: Santa Anita Family Service, 605 S. Myrtle Ave., **Monrovia, CA** 91016., Topic: **Department of Mental Health- Trauma and Suicidality**, Contact: Heidi Yeh, CSW III – Phone (562) 777-1751

When: 4<sup>th</sup> **Tuesday** of the Month **March 27, 2012** 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Where: Pomona Palomares Senior Center, 499 E Arrow Highway, **Pomona, CA** 91767. (909) 620-2324, Contact: Cecilia Chang, CSW III – Phone (562) 777-1751

When: 4<sup>th</sup> **Wednesday** of the Month **March 28, 2012**, 9:30 am to 11:30 am, Where: DCFS Glendora Office, 725 S Grand Ave, **Glendora, CA** 91740. Contact: Cecilia Chang, CSW III – Phone (562) 777-1751

When: 4<sup>th</sup> **Wednesday** of the Month **March 28, 2012** from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. , Where: Katy Geissert Library, 3301 Torrance Blvd, **Torrance, CA** 90503

Topic: **Department of Mental Health- Trauma and Suicidality**, Contact: Elizabeth Harris, CSW III – Phone (562) 777-1751

**NOTE: Grand Parents as Parents** meet each Wed at 9 am, at the Kinship Resource Center., 9834 Norwalk Blvd, **Santa Fe Springs, CA** 90670, Call Barbara Wasson, 562-921-7554

### **Bilingual (Spanish) Support Groups**

When: 4<sup>th</sup> **Tuesday March 27th, 2012** of the Month from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. , Where: At the Kinship Resource Center Office 9834 Norwalk Blvd, **Santa Fe Springs, Ca** 90670, Call Vera Griego, 562-944-1371, if you wish to attend.



The following **Bilingual Spanish** support groups are conducted by CSW, Viktor Cervantes, (562)777-1751.

During the follow support groups (for a portion of the meeting), the Department of Mental Health will be speaking on Trauma and Suicidality.

**South Gate** support group, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Tuesday March 13, 2012** of the month, 9:30 am-11:30 am., Address: 9200 State Street, **South Gate, CA.** 90280.

**Long Beach** support group, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Tuesday March 20, 2012** of the month, 9:30 am-11:30 am., Address: 6335 Myrtle Av. **Long Beach, CA.** 90805.

**East LA** support group, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Thursday March 22, 2012** of the month, 9:30 am-11:30 am., Address: 4716 Cesar Chavez Ave. **Los Angeles, CA** 90022.

**LA Harbor** support group, 4<sup>th</sup> **Wednesday March 28, 2012** of the month, 9:30 am-11:30 am. Address: 1111 Figueroa Place, **Wilmington, CA.** 90744.





## Department of Children and Family Services

### Kinship Support Division

## Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

Volume II, Issue 4, April 2012

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:** "There is a fountain of youth: It is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of the people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will have truly defeated age." –Sophia Loren

### CAREGIVER SPOTLIGHT: Gerri Lavonda.

My interview with relative caregiver, Geri Lavonda started like this...."Can I tell you a little story?" "Of Course", I responded. From that moment, I realized that this interview was going to be special, and it was. "I've been caring for my 3 year old grandson and now month old granddaughter. I have been caring for the 3 year old for 3 years now and the 13 month old for the past 6 months. I am 64 years old this year. I didn't think my life was going to be this way. I worked, then retired, and traveled. My life belonged to me....I took in my grandson and thought it was going to be temporary...then came his sister. I felt alone and deserted. I no longer had my circle of friends. They were single. They didn't have babies... eventually I started to make new friends at Shields for Families."

"I cannot remember how I came in contact with Maggie (Kinship's Margarita Perez). Maggie wouldn't give up. When I would ask for something, she would call me back. She actually called me back. She gave me childcare referrals and even went with me (to child care site) to support me. Whatever it was, whatever I needed, she would assist me. She gave me tools to use for my life. I found freedom. I became free again." [pause]

"I highly recommend that caregivers call the Kinship Centers. You can have material things and money. Money may get you the things, but what you guys (Kinship) have given me is tools that I need, to get what I need... to accomplish things. It's not about how old you are, it's about growing up. I was at an age that I wanted to play. Well, I can still play. I learn a lot from the children. I have someone that needs me. The children need me."

Kinship thanks you Ms. Lavonda. You are inspiring.

*Thank you!*

Marianne Yamato, Kinship CSA I



**KINSHIP STARS:** Elizabeth Harris and Rosella Yousef. Trying to get motivation to write is sometimes tricky, and then, magic just happens. Sitting at my computer I heard a passionate voice saying, "I have been going through this for four years and I did not even know you guys (Kinship) were here. I wish all the staff were like you." These words came from relative caregiver, Taylor Beaudet. When asked about the Kinship staff who she felt appreciative about, she acknowledged Kinship CSW, Elizabeth Harris, and CSA II, Rosella Yousef. These moments are Kinship's motivation...the reason we wake up in the morning! Kinship is here for you and we want you to know we are your listening ear and navigator through your life as a caregiver. Good Job Elizabeth and Rosella...Keep on Shining. And a big THANK YOU to Supervising Children's Social Worker, Nancy Armenta for referring Ms. Beaudet to the Kinship Office.  
Marianne Yamato, Kinship CSA I

## RESOURCES:

**Community Youth Corps: Career Opportunities for Foster Youth.** 100 hours of work experience. \$8.00 per hour. Assistance with work attire and transportation. Requirements: 17-21 years old; California I.D. or Driver's License; Social Security Card; and Birth Certificate. Call (562) 484-5013.

## RESOURCES: CONTINUED

### Mexican American Opportunities Foundation:

Resource Center which provides a variety of services from Senior Services, Childcare, Handy-Man Program, taxi vouchers and tokens, employment etc. Funded by the Department of Education. Call for more information: (323) 890-9600, 401 N. Garfield Ave. Montebello, CA 90640. Currently serves four counties (Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino, and Kern).

Foster Children's Resource Center: Serving families in foster care from the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valley. Volunteers at this center serve children from newborn to 18 years of age. They will provide new clothing such as undergarments, socks, jeans, jackets, shirts and school uniforms, school supplies and layettes for newborn babies. Open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Call (818) 701-0506 for more information.

## EVENTS:

April 3, 2012: 9:30-12:30pm. Rio Hondo Community College presents a free class on Conflict Resolution at Los Nietos Community Center, 11640 Slauson Ave Whittier, CA 90606. Caregivers will apply effective ways on approaching and resolving conflict. Call (562) 908-3435 to register.

April 7, 2012: 9am-11am, Easter Egg Drop, Free Easter Event being held at Azusa Pacific University East Campus Football Field. 25,000 Easter Eggs for your enjoyment plus prizes!

April 10, 2012: 5pm-8pm. Karaoke Night for relative caregivers and teens hosted by Kinship Division. Located at "Club 705", 705 Pier Ave. Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. Call (562) 777-1751 for more information and to RSVP. SPACE IS LIMITED!

April 10, 2012: Kinship Resource Center South Open House, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe springs, CA 90670. Drop in any time from 9am-4pm to learn about how Kinship can help you or your relative caregivers. Refreshments will be provided.

April 12, 2012: 5:15-7pm: Kinship South Monthly Meeting for caregivers on Educational Issues Facing Your Children, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670, (562) 777-1751. Come ask your educational questions. DCFS educational consultants will be here. Childcare and activities for your children and teens is available. Light dinner will be provided. No Fee!!!

April 14, 2012: 11am-4pm. Target Free Family Saturday: Monster Mash, enjoy a day of monster

related fun and crafts for the whole family. FREE at the Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St. Downtown Los Angeles. (213) 625-0414.

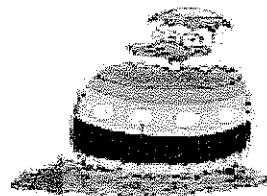
April 21, 2012: 8am-3pm. Earth Day at Cabrillo Marine Museum: Free admission on April 21, 2012. 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. San Pedro, CA. Call (310) 548-7562 for more information.

April 21, 2012: 10am-2pm, How to Advocate in Favor of Your Special Needs Child: Learn about Regional Center Process and D/F Rate Assistance. College Certified Training Hours Provided. Citrus College, 1000 W. Foothill Blvd. Glendora, CA 91702, Lunch will be provided. Call (626) 857-4028 to register.

April 26, 2012: 7-8:30pm, Child / Teen Safety Workshop: Keeping Kids/ Teens Safe from Sexual Predators, Children of Victory presents this workshop which will be held at Pan Pacific Park, 7600 Beverly pacific Park. 7600 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90036.

## Save the Date:

May 25, 2012, 6-8pm. Speedzone. Come enjoy a night of high octane racing, miniature golf and video games (For Kinship families and children ages 5-18 years old). Speedzone is located at: 17871 Castleton St., City of Industry, CA 91748. Dinner will be served. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. RSVP Required!!!  
RSVP to Jenny at: (562) 777-1753.



HAPPY EASTER KINSHIP FAMILY  
<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>



DCFS  
KINSHIP RESOURCE  
CENTERS

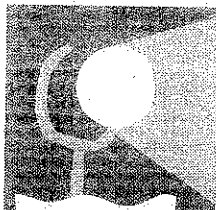
Providing a Helping Hand  
to Relative caregivers  
1-888-MYGRAND  
1-888-694-7263





Department of Children and Family Services  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers  
Volume II, Issue 5, May 2012

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: Never look down on anybody unless you're helping him up. -Jesse Jackson



**CAREGIVER SPOTLIGHT: MARISOL GUTIERREZ...**

This month, Kinship introduces you to relative caregiver, Marisol Gutierrez. Ms. Gutierrez is a single, full-time employed caregiver who is also going to school. Ms. Gutierrez has also been caring for her 15 year old nephew since March of 2011.

When asked how caring for her nephew came about, Ms. Gutierrez responded, "My brother became incarcerated and his mother has substance abuse issues. Since he (child) was involved with DCFS in the past, I didn't want him to go through it again." I called the Alliance for Children Rights. They helped me out with the paperwork for Legal Guardianship. They appointed a Pro-Bono attorney for me and referred me to DPSS to file as a non-Needy Caregiver to waive filing fees and I got medical and cash assistance for my nephew."

In regards to any challenges that she has had in caring for her nephew, Ms. Gutierrez stated, "He has emotional issues, so I had to wait for the Medi-cal to kick in and get him into counseling. I also got him involved in the TORCH program who helped me with his behavioral problems and parenting classes. TORCH is a program for strong-minded kids."

As to what is the best part about being a caregiver to her nephew, Ms. Gutierrez stated, "He's happy and calls where we live 'home'."

In regards to how her life has changed becoming a caregiver, Ms. Gutierrez stated, "I went from being single, (not married and no children) to having to find a babysitter. It's fulfilling, but it's hard. But, I have family for support. I know he (nephew) appreciated it because he says, "I'm (Ms. Gutierrez) the responsible parent. He was a D-F student and now he is a B student."

Kinship gives Ms. Gutierrez a big, "High Five" for caring enough to take care of her nephew, and having a strong will to continue with her own dreams.

By Marianne Yamato, CSA I

**RESOURCES:**  
United Friends of the Children is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bettering the lives of foster children and to supporting former foster youth in their journey to become successful, independent adults. Through its programs, advocacy efforts and direct involvement with youth, UFC seeks to be a catalyst for change. The College Readiness Program (CRP) helps foster youth become competitive applicants to four-year colleges/universities. This program is enrichment focused and offers: individual college counseling, tutoring, workshops, college tours, special events, and summer programs. UFC's goal is to change the current statistics facing foster youth and offer them hope for a brighter future. For more information please contact Carolina Diaz, Outreach and Recruitment Specialist at: 213-975-1406 or carolina@unitedfriends.org

## More Resources...

Valley Trauma Center (Van Nuys Location)

-Learn the facts about **sexual abuse & sexual assault**; How to support your loved one & yourself through the process of recovery.

For: Parents, Caregivers, Siblings, Partners, and Loved ones of someone who has been sexually abused or assaulted

Register by calling: 818-886-0453 or 661-253-0258-Request Sexual Assault Awareness Group. Space is limited; \$5 fee per session may be waived.

### DPSS Toy Loan Program ...What is Toy Loan?

In April, Marcia Blachman-Benitez, Director over The Toy Loan Program of Department of Public Social Services, met with Kinship staff. Ms. Blachman-Benitez explained that the Toy Loan Program is a **free service** which allows children to borrow toys from a Toy Loan Center in the same manner in which they borrow books from the public library. The Children borrow toys once a week and receive incentives and rewards for returning the toys in good condition. It is a voluntary community effort sponsored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Public Social Services.

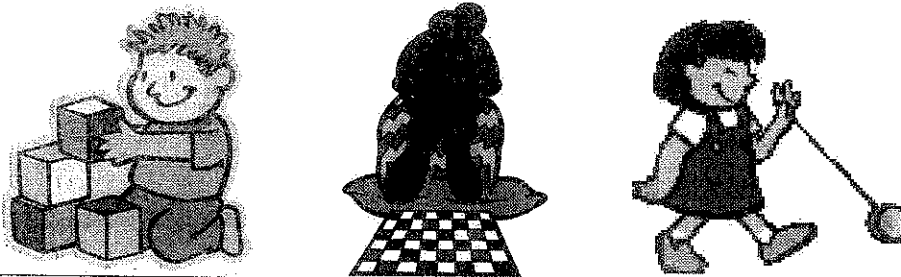
The Toy Loan program also helps:

- To develop a sense of *responsibility* in children through the observance of an honor code and merit system that gives praise and recognition when toys are returned on time and undamaged.
- To foster *positive attitudes* in children by providing them an accepted means of obtaining toys.
- To *benefit* children by keeping their spare time wholesomely occupied with a variety of toys.
- To *involve* the adult and teenage community in the needs of youth in their areas through voluntary commitment of time and resources to assist children.

The success of this concept has been demonstrated over the years and is supported by the fact that the majority of children who borrow toys from a center return them in good condition and on time.

There are many Toy Loan Centers throughout Los Angeles County. For specific centers, please check the internet at: <http://dpss.lacounty.gov/dpss/toyloan/tlcenters.cfm>. You may also call 213-744-4347 for location information.

**\*\*\*STAY TUNED: Toy Loan Centers will be coming to DCFS Kinship Resource Centers soon.**



### EVENTS:

Kinship Education Orientation Training (Come learn about the DCFS process; learn about the legal process, ASFA etc.; resources for caregivers; opportunity to ask general questions about DCFS.)

Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2012. 9:30am-12pm. English and Spanish ((translator upon request) NO COST

Where: Wellness Center, 1403 N. Garey Ave. Pomona, CA 91767

RSVP as soon as possible to: (562) 777-1751

\*Orientation Training coming to other areas soon. Call above number for more information.

Clearing Your Criminal Record (Training and Discussion)

Presented by Betty Halle, Office of Samoan Affairs

**Date: Thursday, May 17, 2012, 5:15-7pm NO COST**

**Where: Kinship Resource Center North, 5035 W. Slauson Ave. LA, CA 90056, Suite G**

**RSVP to: (562) 777-1751 --Child and Teen Supervision Provided upon request--**

**2012 Head Start Learning and Resource Fair (for families with children from birth – 5 years old.)**

**Date: May 19, 2012, 10am-3pm. NO COST**

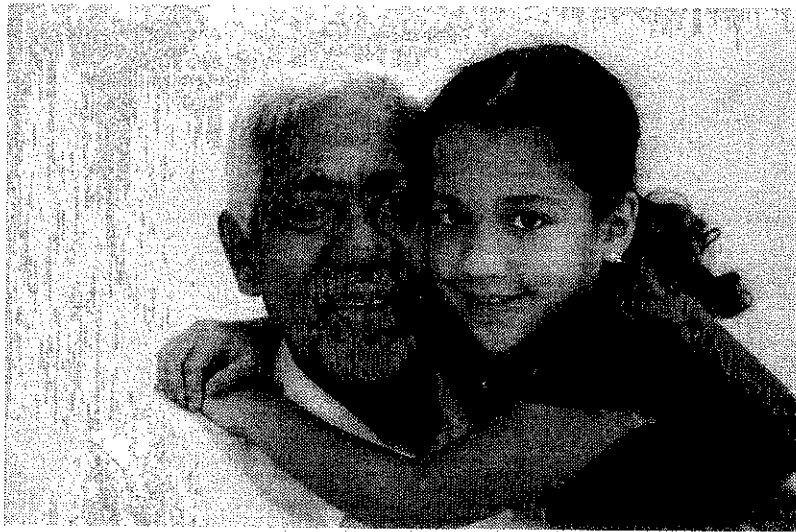
**Where: The Expo Center-3980 Bill Robertson Lane. LA, CA 90037**

Bienvenidos Community Services Presents...Families Helping Families Giveaway: Come and select items for you and your family for FREE. \*Clothing for all members of the family \*Items for infants \*Bedding \*Small appliances \*Household items \* All items are new or in semi-new condition.

**Date: May 19, 2012, 9am-1pm**

**Where: 501 S. Atlantic Blvd., LA, CA 90022**

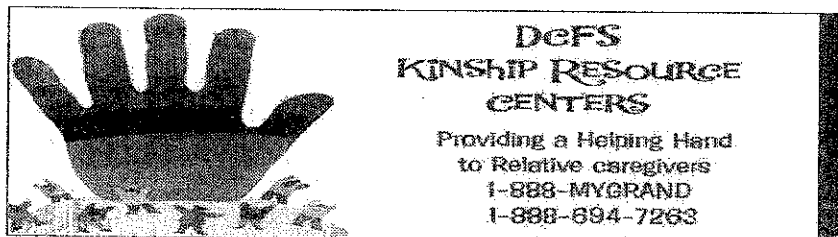
**For more information or to donate items, please call: 323-268-5442**



**Save the Date:**

**Kinship Caregiver Conference--June 7, 2012**

**Call the Kinship Resource Center at: (323)298-3515 for more details.**



**Check our website at**

**<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>**



# New Kin-GAP Program!

## AB12

### What is AB 12?

Assembly Bill 12 ("AB 12") is a bill also known as the California Fostering Connections to Success Act, which was signed into law on September 30, 2010 and went into effect January 2011. AB 12 brings about important changes to the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP) benefits.

### What are the changes?

At the time of your next annual Kin-GAP review, your Kin-GAP benefits will be converted into the new Kin-GAP Federal or state subsidized program. Under the new program:

1. You are able to negotiate your Kin-GAP benefits to meet if applicable, the current special needs of your child(ren) but not to exceed the rate that the child would have received in foster care.
2. You are able to re-negotiate the amount of your Kin-Gap benefits at the time of your re-assessment which occurs every 2 years. However, if the needs of your child(ren) change before that time, you can request an earlier reassessment.
3. You are able to move to another state and continue to receive Kin-GAP benefits based on that state's relative foster care rate unless that rate can not be paid or if applicable, does not have a specialized rate. If eligible for federal Kin-GAP, you are likely to receive Medicaid in that state. However, if receiving state-funded Kin-GAP, the receipt of Medicaid depends on whether or not that state has an agreement with California. It is advised that you explore the Medicaid benefits as well as the state's relative foster care rates before you make plans to move to determine the impact of that move.
4. You are now able to continue to receive Kin-GAP benefits for your child until he or she turns 21 provided that they have a qualifying mental or physical disability. Beginning in 2012, Kin-GAP will be extended to age 19, in 2013 age 20 and subject to funding appropriations, in 2014 to age 21. The youth must have attained 16 years of age before the Kin-GAP negotiated agreement payments began. In addition, the youth must be finishing high school or a program to get a GED, enrolled in college or a vocational program, in a program or activity to help find a job, employed at least 80 hours a month or is not able to do any of the above activities because of a medical condition.

### What can I expect?

During the time of your next annual Kin-GAP review, you will be contacted by a DCFS social worker who will complete a new Kin-GAP Agreement (SOC 396A) with you and will be able to provide more specific information about the enhanced Kin-GAP program. At that time, before you sign the new agreement you will have an opportunity to negotiate for the most appropriate rate if the needs of the child have changed.

**The DCFS Kinship Resource Centers social workers, invite you to one of the many "Drop in Sites" to help you process your paperwork which normally takes 15-20 minutes. Please see the attached schedule and reserve your spot today!**

For the most current "Drop-In Sites" and added dates and locations, please call the Kinship Division at 1-888-694-7263

**KINSHIP RESOURCE CENTER  
CAREGIVERS REFERRAL FORM**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CAREGIVER(S) DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_

|                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>CHILD(S) NAME:</b> _____ | <b>DOB</b> _____ |
| _____                       | <b>DOB</b> _____ |
| _____                       | <b>DOB</b> _____ |
| _____                       | <b>DOB</b> _____ |

**RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD(S)** \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERRED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERRAL REASON:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

KINSHIP RESOURCE CENTER  
9834 NORWALK BLVD.  
SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA 90675

**OFFICE: 562-777-1751**  
**FAX: 562-777-1633**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT





**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES  
KINSHIP SUPPORT DIVISION**

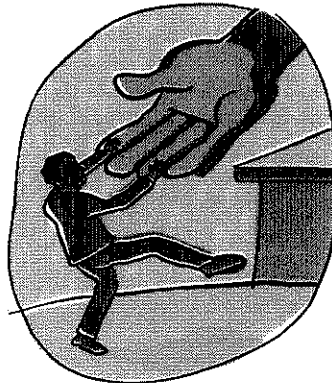
**Kinship Resource Center  
5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G  
Los Angeles, CA 90056  
(323)298-3515**

**Welcomes Licensed Clinical Social Worker Martha Glomah  
To the Kinship Resource Center at 5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G, in  
Los Angeles as of April, 2012!!!**

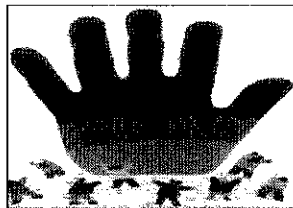
**Ms. Glomah is a clinician with the Department of Mental Health and is now  
available to provide support and referral to mental health services for  
children in relative care.**

**Office Hours: Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

**Ms. Glomah can be reached by calling the Center's main line  
at (323)298-3515.**



**Help for the helper, because sometimes we all can use a helping hand.**



**DcFS  
KINSHIP RESOURCE  
CENTERS**

**Providing a Helping Hand  
to Relative caregivers  
1-888-MYGRAND  
1-888-694-7263**

**<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>**

# NEWSFLASH!!!

***NEW DAY!!! Day Changed From  
Wednesdays to Thursdays***

## **DCFS Kinship Resource Center**



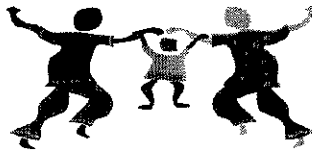
**CAL-WORKS APPLICATIONS**

**EVERY THURSDAY**

**10AM-12:00PM**

**For Non-Needy Caregivers**

**9834 Norwalk Blvd.  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
Contact: 562-777-1751**



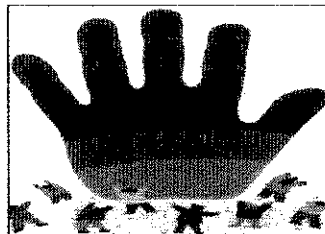
**DCFS Kinship Support Division  
5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G  
Los Angeles, CA 90056  
(323)298-3515**

**Presents**

**School on Wheels, Inc.  
Free tutoring program every Wednesday  
4:00 – 5:30 pm**

(taken from the organization's website) "School on Wheels, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1993 by Agnes Stevens, a retired teacher. After reading Jonathan Kozol's *Rachel and her Children*, Agnes realized the extent of homelessness in the USA. She began tutoring homeless kids in a park in Santa Monica, encouraging them to stay in school and participate in school activities. The mission of School on Wheels is to enhance educational opportunities for homeless children from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Our goal is to shrink the gaps in their education and provide them with the highest level of education possible. Our program serves as a consistent support system to homeless students at a time of great stress and fear. We bring the message to our students that they are cared about and important. We do this by offering:

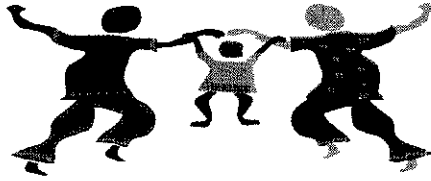
- One-on-one weekly tutoring with a volunteer
- Backpacks, school supplies and school uniforms
- A toll-free number for kids to keep in touch with us (800-923-1100)
- Assistance in entering school
- Help in locating lost records
- Guidance for parents in educational matters for their children
- Two Learning Centers, one located in the heart of Skid Row and the other in South Los Angeles"
- Tutoring in seven major regions in Southern California, including Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties."



**DCFS  
KINSHIP RESOURCE  
CENTERS**

Providing a Helping Hand  
to Relative caregivers  
1-888-MYGRAND  
1-888-694-7263

Call to sign up today!



**Department of Children and Family Services - Kinship Support Services  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers!**

**ARE YOU A RELATIVE CAREGIVER OR NON-RELATED EXTENDED FAMILY  
MEMBER CARING FOR A CHILD YOU WERE GRANTED CUSTODY OF THROUGH  
DCFS AND CHILDREN'S COURT?**

**\*ARE YOU THINKING OF RELINQUISHING YOUR RIGHTS TO A CHILD AS YOU  
CAN NO LONGER HANDLE HIM /HER?**

**\*ARE YOU EXPERIENCING ANY MEDICAL OR LIFE THREATENING ISSUES AND  
HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT WHO WILL CARE FOR YOUR CHILD IF YOU CANNOT?**

**\*ARE YOU CONSIDERING ADDING A CO-GUARDIAN TO THE LEGAL STATUS OF  
YOUR CHILD'S CASE?**

**\*DO YOU WANT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL SUPPORT WHILE CARING FOR YOUR  
CHILD LIKE COMMUNITY RESOURCES, SUPPORT GROUPS, AND LEARN MORE  
ABOUT SPECIAL EVENTS FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD?**

**DCFS KINSHIP SUPPORT SERVICES IS  
HERE TO HELP YOU!**

**We serve open and closed DCFS cases and community cases where  
relatives and extended family members are caring for children.**

**COME AND SPEAK WITH A KINSHIP REPRESENTATIVE AT  
CHILDREN'S COURT: 201 CENTRE PLAZA DRIVE, MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754.  
APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.  
(KINSHIP STAFF WILL BE AT CHILDREN'S COURT AT LEAST 2 DAYS A WEEK.)**

**CALL (323) 526-6082 or (562) 777-1751 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

|  |                                                                                                                                                     |
|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p><b>DCFS<br/>KINSHIP RESOURCE<br/>CENTERS</b></p> <p>Providing a Helping Hand<br/>to Relative caregivers<br/>1-888-MYGRAND<br/>1-888-694-7263</p> |
|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Check our website at  
<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>**

# **Kinship Resource Center**

# **OPEN HOUSE**

**Wednesday, June 6, 2012**

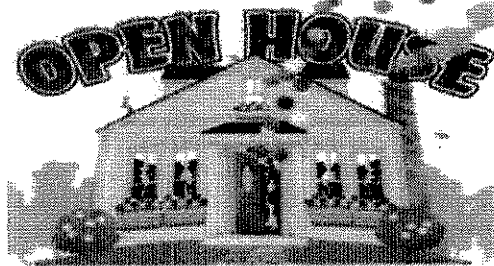
**9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Kinship Resource Center, South**

**9834 Norwalk Blvd.**

**Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670**

**(562) 777-1751**



**Come see our center, meet our staff,  
obtain resources and enjoy**

**Balloons, Refreshments, Children's Crafts!**

**Caregivers, children/youth, community partners, and staff are  
all invited!**

**JOIN US AT 2:00 PM TO TAKE PART IN THE  
GRAND OPENING OF THE  
TOY LOAN CENTER!**

The Toy Loan Program is a free toy-lending program that gives children the opportunity to checkout toys while learning responsibility and accountability skills, and winning cool prizes.

Toy Loan is sponsored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
And the Department of Public Social Services



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES  
AND DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES



## TOY LOAN GRAND OPENING

JUNE 6, 2012

2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

At

**DCFS Kinship Resource Center**

**9834 Norwalk Blvd**

**Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670**



The Toy Loan Program is a free toy-lending program that gives children the opportunity to checkout toys while learning responsibility and accountability skills, and winning cool prizes.

Toy Loan is sponsored by the  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Public Social Services



For more information please call Jennifer Balvaneda at  
(562) 777-1751

Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Services

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers





DEPARTAMENTO DE SERVICIOS SOCIALES PÚBLICOS Y DCFS DEL CONDADO DE LOS ANGELES



# GRAN APERTURA DE TOY LOAN

## 6 DE JUNIO DEL 2012

### 2:00 P.M. A 3:00 P.M.

En

### DCFS Kinship Resource Center

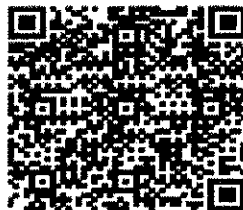
### 9834 Norwalk Blvd

### Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

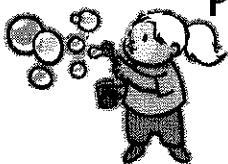


El programa Toy Loan es un programa de préstamo de juguetes gratis que da a los niños la oportunidad de pedir prestado juguetes mientras adquieren sentido de responsabilidad y obligación y ganan premios fabulosos.

Toy Loan está patrocinado por  
La Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Los Angeles  
Departamento de Servicios Sociales Públicos



Para más información, llame a Jennifer Balvaneda al  
(562) 777-1751

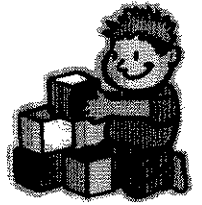


SPANISH





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES  
AND DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES



## TOY LOAN GRAND OPENING

JUNE 13, 2012

2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

At

DCFS Kinship Resource Center

5035 W. Slauson Ave Suite G

Los Angeles, CA 90056



The Toy Loan Program is a free toy-lending program that gives children the opportunity to check-out toys while learning responsibility and accountability skills, and winning cool prizes.

Toy Loan is sponsored by the  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
And the Department of Public Social Services

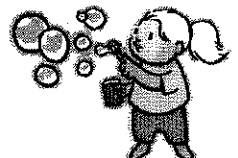


For more information please call Kimberly Ross at

(323) 298-3515

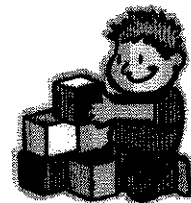
Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Services

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES  
AND DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES



## TOY LOAN GRAND OPENING

JUNE 13, 2012

2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

At

DCFS Kinship Resource Center

5035 W. Slauson Ave Suite G

Los Angeles, CA 90056



The Toy Loan Program is a free toy-lending program that gives children the opportunity to check-out toys while learning responsibility and accountability skills, and winning cool prizes.

Toy Loan is sponsored by the  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
And the Department of Public Social Services

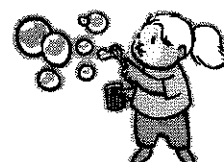


For more information please call Kimberly Ross at

(323) 298-3515

Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Services

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers





DEPARTAMENTO DE SERVICIOS SOCIALES PÚBLICOS Y DCFS DEL CONDADO DE LOS ANGELES



# GRAN APERTURA DE TOY LOAN

13 DE JUNIO DEL 2012

2:00 P.M. A 3:00 P.M.

En

DCFS Kinship Resource Center

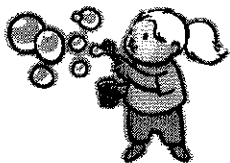
5035 W. Slauson Ave Suite G

Los Angeles, CA 90056



El programa Toy Loan es un programa de préstamo de juguetes gratis que da a los niños la oportunidad de pedir prestado juguetes mientras adquieren sentido de responsabilidad y obligación y ganan premios fabulosos.

Toy Loan está patrocinado por  
La Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Los Angeles  
Departamento de Servicios Sociales Públicos



Para más información, llame a Kimberly Ross al  
(323) 298-3515



SPANISH



## DCFS Kinship Support Division

9834 Norwalk Blvd.

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

(562) 777-1751

AND

5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G

Los Angeles, CA 90056

(323)298-3515

### DPSS Toy Loan Program ...What is Toy Loan?

In April, Marcia Blachman-Benitez, Director over The Toy Loan Program of Department of Public Social Services, met with Kinship staff. Ms. Blachman-Benitez explained that the Toy Loan Program is a **free service** which allows children to borrow toys from a Toy Loan Center in the same manner in which they borrow books from the public library. The Children borrow toys once a week and receive incentives and rewards for returning the toys in good condition. It is a voluntary community effort sponsored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Public Social Services.

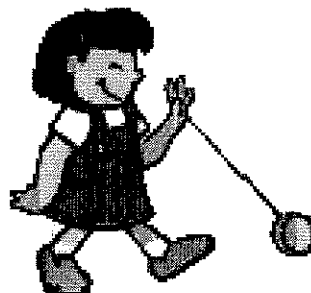
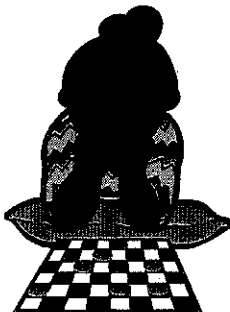
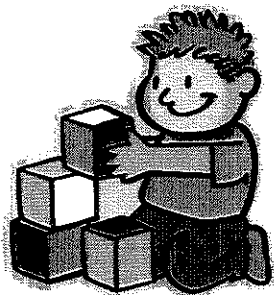
The Toy Loan program also helps:

- To develop a sense of *responsibility* in children through the observance of an honor code and merit system that gives praise and recognition when toys are returned on time and undamaged.
- To foster *positive attitudes* in children by providing them an accepted means of obtaining toys.
- To *benefit* children by keeping their spare time wholesomely occupied with a variety of toys.
- To *involve* the adult and teenage community in the needs of youth in their areas through voluntary commitment of time and resources to assist children.

The success of this concept has been demonstrated over the years and is supported by the fact that the majority of children who borrow toys from a center return them in good condition and on time.

There are many Toy Loan Centers throughout Los Angeles County. For specific centers, please check the internet at: <http://dpss.lacounty.gov/dpss/toyloan/tlcenters.cfm>. You may also call 213-744-4347 for location information.

**\*\*\*STAY TUNED: Toy Loan Centers will be coming to DCFS Kinship Resource Centers soon.**





DCFS Kinship Support Division  
9834 Norwalk Blvd.  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

AND

5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G  
Los Angeles, CA 90056



## ***Summer 2012 Events are on their way!!!***

***One day excursions and summer long  
activities!***

***There are lots of activities sponsored by the Kinship Division to make this  
summer meaningful and FUN!***

***Contact us TODAY or visit us on the Website at  
<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>***



DCFS  
KINSHIP RESOURCE  
CENTERS

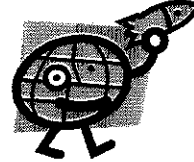
Providing a Helping Hand  
to Relative caregivers  
1-888-MYGRAND  
1-888-694-7263



**The Kinship Support Division of DCF\$ Presents**

**DISCOVERY SCIENCE CENTER, in Santa Ana, California,**

**offering** **hands-on science fun**



**where families can explore more than 100 interactive exhibits together!!!**

**WHO: Relative caregivers and legal guardians and the children/youth in your care!**

**WHEN: Saturday, July 14 2012!**

**WHY: Because you are valued for your commitment to one another!**

**HOW: Call the Kinship Support Division TODAY to reserve your tickets! Supplies are limited!**

**CALL 562-777-1751 TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION**

|  |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p><b>DcFS</b><br/><b>KINSHIP RESOURCE</b><br/><b>CENTERS</b></p> <p>Providing a Helping Hand<br/>to Relative caregivers<br/>1-888-MYGRAND<br/>1-888-694-7263</p> |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

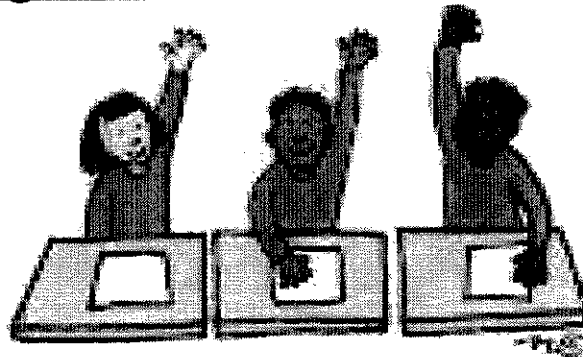
For more relative caregiver news, check our website at  
<http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/kinshippublic/default.html>



Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Division  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

## **KEPS.....THE NEXT GENERATION**

**Some things in life deserve a second chance.**



***KEPS=Kinship Education Preparation and Support***

**Attention: Relative Caregivers / Non-Related Extended Family Members**

- Come learn about DCFS in a comfortable setting
  - Learn about the legal process, ASFA, etc.
  - Resources for caregivers
- Opportunity to ask general questions about DCFS.

**Date: TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2012**

**Time: 11:00AM – 2:00PM**

**Address: 39959 Sierra Highway, Palmdale, CA. 93550**

**LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM**

**RSVP: 818-717-4636 HARRIET MINKE CSA**



**DCFS  
KINSHIP RESOURCE  
CENTERS**

Providing a Helping Hand  
to Relative caregivers  
1-888-MYGRAND  
1-888-694-7263



Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services Kinship Support Division Presents



# Kinship Conference 2012

**"KEEPING PERMANENT FAMILY CONNECTIONS"**

**Thursday, June 7, 2012**

At the

**DoubleTree Hotel**

6161 W. Centinela Avenue

Culver City, CA. 90230

8:30a.m.-4:00p.m.

*Free Parking, Continental breakfast, and buffet lunch*

Enjoy a day of active learning designed especially for kinship caregivers! Workshops designed to assist you in Helping Children Succeed in School, Mental Health and Treatment, Taking Care of the Caregiver and More!

*As in previous years, we ask that you not bring children.*

## Registration Form

**REGISTER  
NOW!**

Please complete this form and Mail or Fax by May 31, 2012 to:

**Kinship Resource Center-North**

5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G

Los Angeles, CA 90056

or

Fax to: (323) 290-4601

**REGISTER  
NOW!**

☐

**YES!** I will attend the 2012 Kinship Conference.

Name

Address

Phone

Will you need transportation?

☐

**No**, I have transportation.

☐

**Yes**, please pick me up at:

☐

**Centro Maravilla**, 4176 E Cesar Chavez Ave. Los Angeles, Ca Departure time: 7:00am

☐

**Compton College**, 1111 E Artesia Blvd. Compton, Departure time: 7:30am

☐

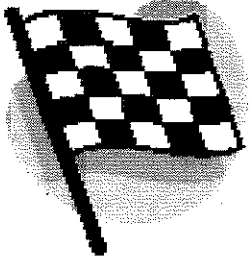
**DCFS Palmdale office**, 39959 Sierra HWY., Palmdale, Departure time: 7:00am

☐

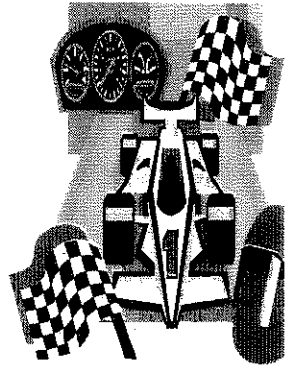
**DCFS Santa Clarita office**, 28490 Avenue Stanford, Santa Clarita, Departure time: 7:30am

☐

**Old DCFS Covina office**, 800 S. Barranca Ave. Covina, Departure time: 7:00am



# **SPEEDZONE**



## **Family Night**

**Come and enjoy a night of high  
octane racing, miniature gold  
and video games**



**For Kinship Families and children  
ages 5-18 years old**

**Must have closed shoes to  
participate**

**Date: May 25, 2012**

**Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm**

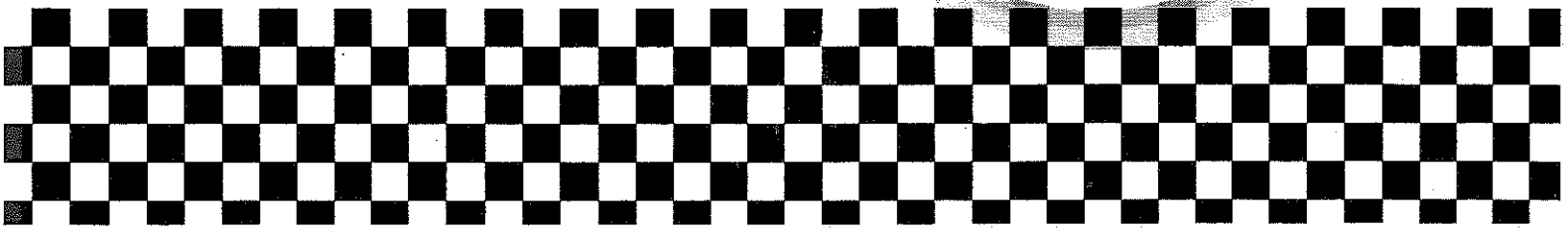
**Location: 17871 Castleton Street,  
City of Industry, CA 91748**

**Dinner will be served**

**MUST RSVP: No later than May 11, 2012**

**Please contact: Jenny (562) 777-1753  
First come first serve**

**DCFS Kinship Resource Center  
9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs  
CA 90670**

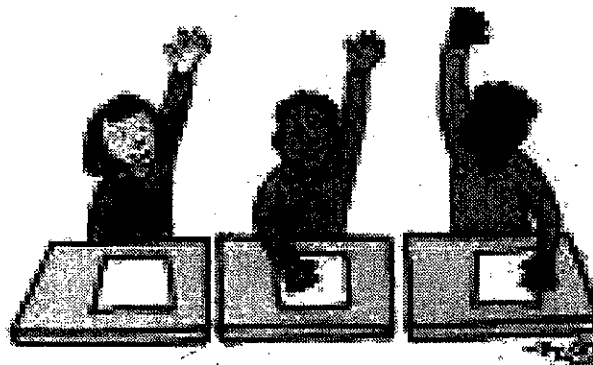




Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Division  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

## **KEPS.....THE NEXT GENERATION**

**Some things in life deserve a second chance.**



### ***KEPS=Kinship Education Preparation and Support***

**Attention: Relative Caregivers / Non-Related Extended Family Members**

- Come learn about DCFS in a comfortable setting
  - Learn about the legal process, ASFA, etc.
  - Resources for caregivers
- Opportunity to ask general questions about DCFS.

**Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2012**

**Time: 9:30am-12pm**

**Address: Wellness Center of Tri City, 1403 N. Garey Ave.  
Pomona, CA 91767 (Meeting will be in the Pomona Room)**

**RSVP as soon as possible to: (562) 777-1751. Snacks provided.**



**DCFS  
KINSHIP RESOURCE  
CENTERS**

Providing a Helping Hand  
to Relative caregivers  
1-888-MYGRAND  
1-888-694-7263



## **CLEARING A CRIMINAL RECORD**

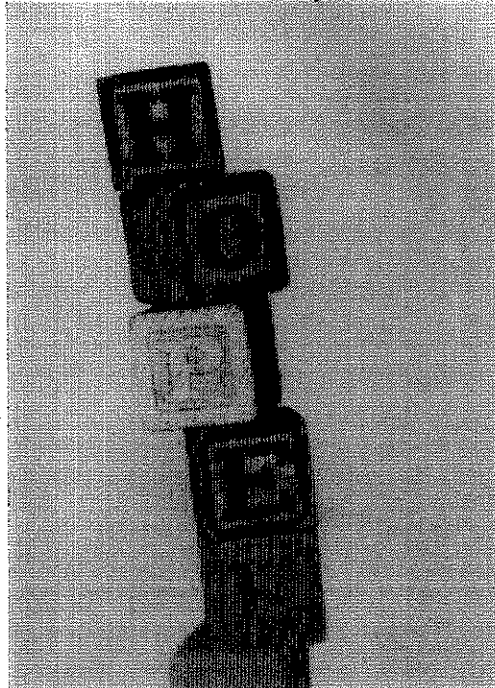
### **Training and Discussion**

**Presenter: Betty Halle, Caregiver Advocate**  
**Office of Samoan Affairs**

**When: Thursday, May 17, 2012, 5:15 – 7:00 PM**

**Where: Kinship Resource Center,  
5035 W. Slauson Avenue, Suite G,  
Los Angeles, CA 90056**

**Expungement** is a legal process through which an arrest or conviction may be erased from a person's **criminal record**.



**Do not let your criminal record keep you from  
reaching your potential!**

**Hosted by DCFS Kinship Support Services**  
**Refreshments and Child Care provided. NO COST for this event.**  
**RSVP today to reserve your spot: 1-562-777-1751**

## **CLEARING A CRIMINAL RECORD**

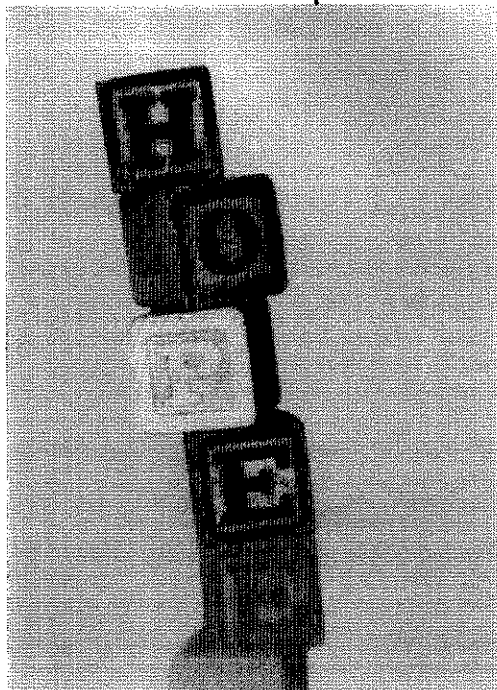
### **Training and Discussion**

**Presenter: Betty Halle, Caregiver Advocate  
Office of Samoan Affairs**

**When: Thursday, May 10, 2012, 5:15 – 7:00 PM**

**Where: Kinship Resource Center, 9834 Norwalk Blvd.,  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670**

**Expungement** is a legal process through which an arrest or conviction may be erased from a person's criminal record.



**Do not let your criminal record keep you from  
reaching your potential!**

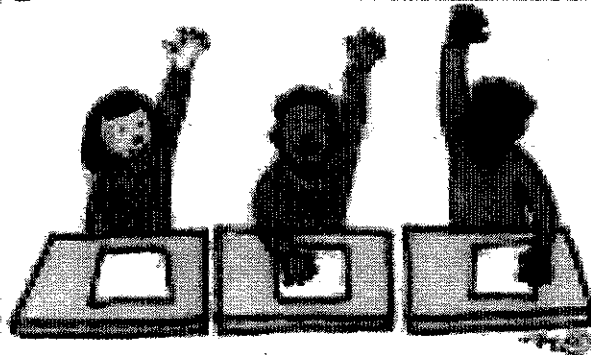
**Hosted by DCFS Kinship Support Services  
Refreshments and Child Care provided. NO COST for this event.  
RSVP today to reserve your spot: 1-562-777-1751 or 1753**



Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Division  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers

## **KEPS.....THE NEXT GENERATION**

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***KEPS=Kinship Education Preparation and Support***

**Attention: Relative Caregivers / Non-Related Extended Family Members**

- Come learn about DCFS in a comfortable setting
  - Learn about the legal process, ASFA, etc.
  - Resources for caregivers
- Opportunity to ask general questions about DCFS.

**Date: FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2012**

**Time: 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**Address: KINSHIP RESOURCE CENTER**

**9834 NORWALK BLVD., SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA 90670**

**Lunch provided; Childcare available upon request**

**RSVP by calling: (562) 777-1751**



**DCFS  
KINSHIP RESOURCE  
CENTERS**

**Providing a Helping Hand  
to Relative Caregivers  
1-888-NYCRANE  
• 888-684-7268**





**UCLA**

**Semel Institute**

## **Project Step Up**

### **Topics On Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders**



#### **Topics Include:**

- Overview of FASD
- Neurological & physical characteristics associated with the disorder
- How to provide support for a teen who has been prenatally exposed to alcohol
- Free resources available at UCLA

#### **Where:**

DCFS Kinship Resource Center  
9834 Norwalk Blvd.  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
(562) 777-1751

#### **Dates:**

Tuesday, April 24th, 2012 from 3:30-4:30pm

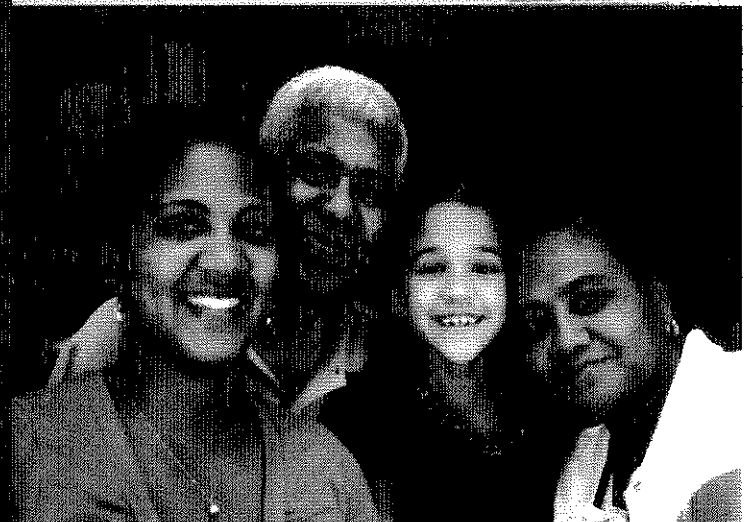
Or Tuesday, May 1st, 2012 from 1-2pm

Refreshments & snacks provided

Child/teen care available upon request

Please RSVP with UCLA at:

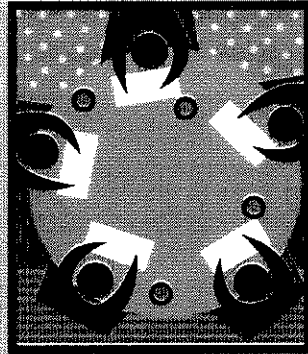
**(310) 825-8738**





# **SPA 5 and 6 Advisory Council Meeting for Relative Caregivers**

**Hosted by Services Bureau 2 of the  
Department of Children and Family Services  
Eric Marts, Deputy Director**



**Thursday, April 26, 2012**

**10:00 - 12:00 Noon**

**Axminster Medical Building**

**11539 Hawthorne Blvd. (1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room)**

**Hawthorne, CA 90250**

- **AB12 overview by Alexis Estwick, Program Coordinator, Foster and Kinship Program, El Camino College**
- **Community College Presentation - Rosalie Hilger, Director of Foster & Kinship Care Education for Los Angeles County**
- **Questions/Answers with Regional Administrators of Compton, Kinship, Vermont Corridor, Wateridge, and West LA DCFS Offices**

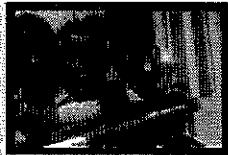
**Questions or to RSVP: Kinship - (562) 777-1751**

**Save the Date: Next Meeting - Thursday, May 24, 10:00 - 12:00 RSVP (562) 777-1751**

# Annual Kinship Training Institute

*Presented by: FKCE-Citrus College, Wings of Refuge & DCFS-Kinship Division*

## *How to Advocate to Stack the Cards in Your Favor for Your Special Needs Child*



Come learn how to navigate through the sometimes confusing process of  
Regional Center and D/F rates assistance

College-Certified Foster Care Training Hours Provided

*Lunch Will Be Provided*

***Pre-Registration Required***

*Additional Educational Materials Will Be Handed Out at the End of the Event.*

***IF YOU ATTENDED LAST YEAR'S EVENT PLEASE BE SURE TO BRING  
YOUR BINDER***

***April 19, 2012, Thursday  
From 9:00am to 2:00pm***

**FKCE-CITRUS COLLEGE  
To register call: 626.857-4028  
LIMITED SEATING**



***Campus Center, Map on Back  
1000 W Foothill Blvd, Glendora, CA 91741***

**Foster/Kinship Care Education**



**Wings of Refuge  
FAMILY SERVICES**



**DCFS**

Los Angeles County  
Department of Children and Family Services



DCFS Kinship Support Division presents....

## **Educational Issues Facing our Children**

**Come ask specific questions that you are facing  
in regards to your child's education.**

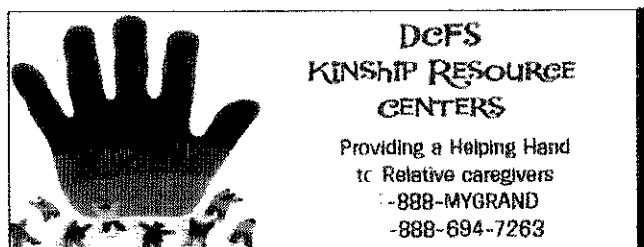
(Holder of Educational Rights, IEP, Special Education, etc.)

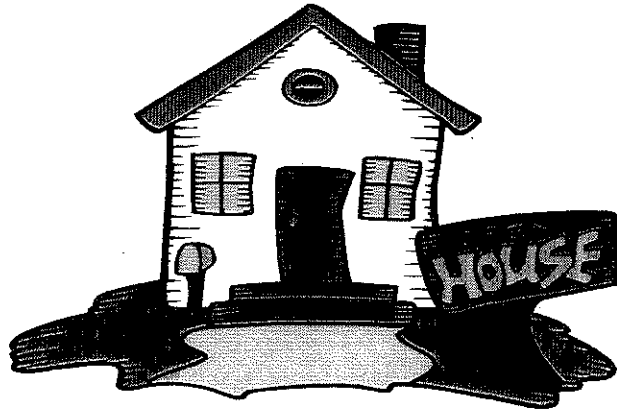
**Date:** Thursday, April 12, 2012  
**Time:** 5:15-7pm  
**Location:** DCFS Kinship South Office  
9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs,  
CA 90670.

**Presented By:** DCFS Education Consultants

\*Space is limited. ***Please RSVP*** to (562) 777-1753.

(Care and activities for your young children and teens will be provided while you are in the meeting. Light snack will also be provided).





THE KINSHIP DIVISION OF DCFS IS HAVING AN

## OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, FROM 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
JOIN US!

9834 NORWALK BLVD., SANTA FE SPRINGS.

Meet staff and learn about the many exciting activities coming your way!  
Refreshments provided.

Encore Parenting Program wants to hear from YOU!!! IF YOU ARE A RELATIVE CAREGIVER WHO RESIDES IN SPA 3 AND SPA 8 ZIP CODES: (90245, 90247, 90248, 90249, 90250, 90254, 90260, 90266, 90274, 90275, 90277, 90278, 90301, 90302, 90303, 90304, 90305, 90501, 90502, 90503, 90504, 90505, 90710, 90717, 90731, 90732, 90744, 90745, 90746, 90747, 90802, 90803, 90804, 90805, 90806, 90807, 90808, 90810, 90813, 90814, 90815, 90822, 90840, 91001, 91006, 91007, 91010, 91016, 91023, 91024, 91030, 91101, 91103, 91104, 91105, 91106, 91107, 91108, 91702, 91706, 91711, 91722, 91723, 91724, 91731, 91732, 91733, 91740, 91741, 91744, 91745, 91746, 91748, 91750, 91754, 91755, 91765, 91766, 91767, 91768, 91770, 91773, 91775, 91776, 91780, 91789, 91790, 91791, 91792, 91801, 91803) you are eligible to participate in a voluntary relative caregiver survey. Your experience as a relative caregiver is valuable and participating in the survey allows you to give your feedback directly to our federal government, AND you will also be given a \$20 Target gift card (while supplies last)! You can complete the survey with Encore staff at the Kinship Open House on April 10.

If you can not attend on April 10<sup>th</sup>, Encore is also having the following Open Houses:

Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-4:00pm

Long Beach Office: 1043 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813

Wednesday April 11<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00pm-4:00pm

Pasadena Office: 851 N. Oakland Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91104

Call Encore at 1-888-4KINSHIP to find out how you can participate in the survey and receive a gift card. Not sure you live in a qualifying zip code? Just give Encore a call. With YOUR help WE can make POSITIVE CHANGES for all relative caregiving FAMILIES!!!

# 🎵 Karaoke Night 🎵

2-12



**This event  
is dedicated to our:  
Relative Caregivers and Teens**

**Date:  
April 10, 2012**

**Time:  
5:00 pm— 8:00 pm**

**Location:  
“Club 705”  
705 Pier Ave., Hermosa Beach, CA 90254**

**Fun - Food - Singing**

**DCFS Kinship Resource Center South, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs CA 90670  
Please contact (562)777-1751 for more information .**

# *Kinship Appreciation*

*Date: April 3, 2012*

*Time: 5pm to 7pm*

*At:*

*Paradise Buffet*

**Kinship would like to  
acknowledge you and  
appreciate you for all  
your hard work.**

**Directions**

- **10 Freeway going East**
- **Exit Central Ave.**
- **Turn Left on Central Ave.**
- **@ 9059 Central Ave. (to the  
right of the street)**

**9059 Central Ave.  
Montclair, CA 91763**

**RSVP~  
Cecilia Chang, CSW  
(562) 777-1765 or  
Heidi Yah, CSW  
(562) 777-1754**





# **Kinship Orientation**

## **Attention**

Grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings or other extended family members caring for a minor relative.

Come learn about the rights, responsibilities, and resources available to you and the child/children in your care.

**Date:** Thursday, March 22, 2012  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
(Lunch will be provided)  
**Location:** DCFS Kinship Resource Center  
9834 Norwalk Blvd.  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90601

Please call the Foster/Kinship Care Education Program at Rio Hondo College at (562) 908-3435 to register.



*"Like the branches on a tree..a family grows in many different directions yet will always share the same roots."*





DCFS Kinship Support Division presents....

**The Independent Living**  
**Program: What you and your**  
**teen need to know**

**Date:** Thursday March 8, 2012

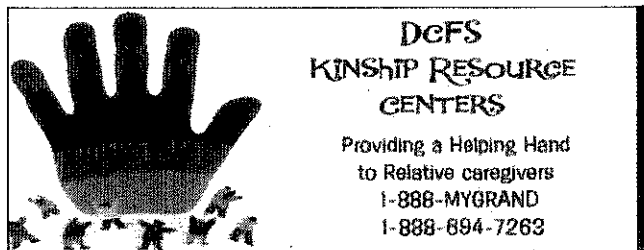
**Time:** 5:15-7pm

**Location:** DCFS Kinship South Office, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670.

Call (562) 777-1751 to reserve your spot.

**Presented By:** Robert Castaneda, ILP Transition Coordinator with the DCFS Youth Development Services Division

\*Space is limited. (Care for your children and activities for them will be provided during the meeting. Light snack will also be provided)



# **Kinship Resource Center**

# **OPEN HOUSE**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2012**

**8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Kinship Resource Center, South**

**9834 Norwalk Blvd.**

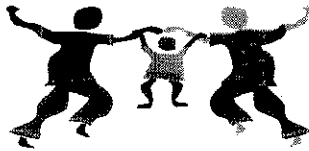
**Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670**

**(562) 777-1751**



**Come see our center, meet our staff, and  
obtain resources:**

- Support Groups
- Resources within your community and within DCFS
- Kinship Care information
- DPSS/CalWORKs Liaison (Wednesday)
- Monthly meetings on topics Related to Kinship Care
- Assistance for relatives making changes in children's court orders
- Mediation with open and closed DCFS Children's Court cases
- Guidance on basic DCFS policies and procedures
- Respite care provided to your children during most Kinship events



DCFS Kinship Support Division presents....

## **Trauma and Suicide Prevention** **for Our Children and Teens**

**Date:** Thursday February 9, 2012

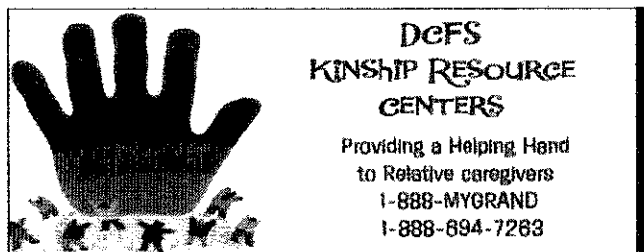
**Time:** 5:15-7pm

**Location:** DCFS Kinship South Office, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. Call (562) 777-1753 to reserve your spot.

**Presented By:** Department of Mental Health, who will educate, as well as offer guidance, with your particular concerns.

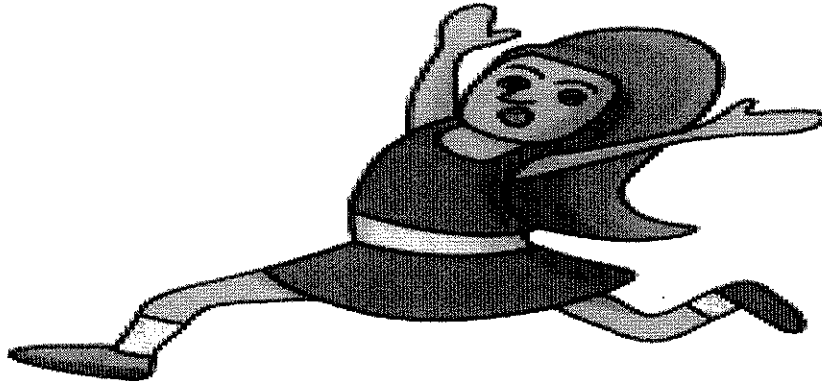
\*Space is limited. (Care for your children and activities for them will be provided during the meeting. Light snack will also be provided)

\***CALLING ALL TEENS:** Please join us for snacks and discussion while the adults are in the meeting. We want to hear from **YOU** about what you would like in a Kinship Teen Group!



**Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Division  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers  
Presents:**

**Information and Discussion Meeting on:**



## **Understanding Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Children**

**When: Thursday, January 12, 2012**

**Where: 9834 Norwalk Blvd.**

**Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 (Kinship South Office)**

**Time: 4:30pm-7pm**

**-Mental Health Instructor will be facilitating the meeting.**

**Space is limited. Please RSVP to  
Kinship South at:  
(562) 777-1753**

**\*You can bring your child / teen to the meeting, and they will be cared for by DCFS Staff while you attend the meeting. Art and Craft / Recreation activities will be provided for your children \*The Whittier Police Department will be making a short presentation on child safety issues with the children and teens.\* Light snack will also be provided.**

## **Sites Identified by Kinship In Action**



1. 8438 S. Vermont L.A CA 90044
  - a. Members ID'd this building after noticing it had its storefronts unused. It is one block away from the current DCFS build on 83<sup>rd</sup> and near Community Coalition as well.
2. 783 W. 59<sup>th</sup> St. L.A CA 90044
  - a. One of our members noticed this two story empty apartment building because it was getting renovated and was so close to 4 bus lines that run by Slauson Ave. and Hoover St.
3. 1005 W. 83<sup>rd</sup> St. L.A CA 90044
  - a. Members also ID'd this former eye clinic for its proximity to the zip codes where most reside, the 90044 and 90047 area.
4. 9115 Vermont Ave. L.A CA 90044
  - a. This former church was indentified by a member because it has long been unused but he recalled being inside before that it was very spacious.
5. 5230 S. Vermont Ave. L.A CA 90037
  - a. This former church was ID by members as being in need of reparations, but in terms of space and being in the area of need, it has incredible potential depending on how much if any renovation money the County has available for this project.

## **Sites Identified by DCFS**

1. 3800 S. Figueroa L.A CA 90037